PARADISE DIVE CLUB

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President's Log by Steven Trainoff

I have been thinking that it has been entirely too warm as of late. I mean, it is the height of summer and the water has been topping 64F. How do you justify the expensive drysuit when it is wetsuit weather? Answer: head north.

That is exactly what Will Chen and I did a couple of weeks ago. We took a weekend trip up to Monterey and dove on the Monterey Express (http://www.montereyexpress.com/). We were joined by my friend Ken Adelman who lives in Santa Cruz. This was my third trip on the Express. It

is a decent dive boat that leaves out of K dock right next to the historic Fisherman's Wharf. They make two day trips of two dives each. We dove on the morning boat that leaves at 8:00am. They supply 2 Al80 tanks per person, but Ken and I brought our own tanks and dove Nitrox 32 on the first dive and Nitrox 37 on the second.

Captain Tim and the crew run a tight ship and overall provide a fairly pleasant dive experience, but our local boats have spoiled me. I left wanting more. The Express is your basic cattle boat that serves up to 20 divers. It has a small camera table, but no tank for rinsing your gear. They do have a freshwater hose, but it is a poor substitute. Since they run two charters per day, they rush the dive schedule. I know that I have a reputation for staying down a long time so I was the first one off the boat and the last one back on for a dive time of 63 minutes and a max depth of 65ft. The water temp was a nippy 52F. The vis was only marginal, but at least there was little surge, so I could practice with my supermacro lens, which is hard to use in the best of conditions. They moved the boat, and after a surface interval of only 31 minutes we were back in the water. This time, even though I was again the first one off the boat, I had to return with over 1200 psi in the tank to avoid blowing the boat schedule. Dive time was 52 minutes with a max depth of 60ft. It was warm on board, but the sun didn't come out until the boat returned to the dock. It was a little rushed, but overall a nice day.

The next day Will and I did a shore dive at Breakwater Cove in Monterey. Although I hate lugging my camera through the surf, for fear of screwing it up with sand, Will convinced me that there was a good reason to do so. Screwing my courage to the wall, we walked through the surf with the drysuit and camera. That is a lot of gear to look after during a surf entry. It went well, and we started navigating based on the instructions we were given. Head parallel to the beach until you find a small pipe. Check. Keep going until you find a big pipe. Check. Follow the big pipe until it dives into the sand at a depth of 50ft. Check. Set a compass heading 90 degrees from the pipe and swim. Check. After a while, nothing. Damn we missed. We set a reciprocal heading and started back to the pipe. Then out of the gloom we spotted our destination. There are Volkswagen sized boulders covered with 3 ft long snow-white Metridium anemones. They look like something out of a science fiction movie. Since I had my macro lens, I concentrated on their interesting

At the end of the dive, we had to navigate a thick kelp field on the way back to the beach, which is quite a trick holding a camera which is prone to catching strands. We finally made it to the beach and carefully walked through the surf. Whew sand disaster averted.

We also managed to catch Ken's annual summer party, where I heard the silliest dive related comment ever. One fellow said to me, "I have 6000 dives. I have seen everything under the sea that there is to see." Ha! Someone shoot me if I get so jaded.





The August 28th meeting will take place at Petrini's Restaurant in Santa Barbara.

14 West Calle Laureles.

Feeding frenzy at 6:30pm, meeting at 7pm



Bob Rydgig - by Carl Gwinn

Bob Rydgig passed away on Aug 16, 2007 at the age of 77. He suffered a massive heart attack while ascending the dock ladder at Landing Cove on Anacapa, after a dive in the cove. Park rangers and the Coast Guard gave CPR and brought him to Ventura as quickly as possible, but he passed away before reaching the mainland.

Bob was a familiar face on the Spectre, the Condor Express, and at Landing Cove. He was a dedicated volunteer as a naturalist and diver for the the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary and Channel Islands National Park. Bob had been diving in the Channel Islands for 50 years. He was one of the first NAUI instructors, and was among the first generation to explore the Channel Islands underwater using scuba. Bob also had a productive career as an engineer at Caltech's Jet

Propulsion Lab. For NASA, he helped to set up the Deep Space Network, used to communicate with and track spacecraft beyond the distance of the Moon. His work took him to South Africa, to set up a tracking station at Hartebeesthoek, where he trained divers and became friends with many in the cave diving community. After his retirement, Bob continued to dive in the Channel Islands and in other spots around the world. He was a dedicated naturalist, and a truly remarkable underwater and topside photographer. He will be missed.



Election Day Is Coming Up!

Its that time of year again folks! Another fun year of diving, picnicing, and trading dive stories has come and gone. It is time to pass the baton to a new slate of dive club officers. So! Start thinking about being part of the team who puts together our club talks and events. If you haven't been part of the board before now is your chance to get your ideas put into action. We will be putting together a list of nominations for each position and conducting nominations during the September meeting.



Goleta Pier Clean Up - by Paul Weakliem

On July 23'rd PDC joined the United Pier and Shore Anglers of California to do a monofilament / lost fishing gear cleanup of the Goleta Pipeline. Carl and Paul (along with some volunteer ChannelKeeper and NOAA divers) had participated in a cleanup under the pier in April (see http://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/whc/mehp/derelictgear.html for more info) and we met Boyd and Fred of UPSAC who volunteered to host a BBQ for divers who were willing to do a cleanup!

It was a beautiful summer day as the divers met, and the Silva's Redemption was anchored offshore as we arrived. A dozen divers suited up and hit the water, bags in hand. Visibility was pretty good for Goleta Beach, and helped in finding quite a bit of trash; the usual golf balls, beer cans, etc., but also a fair bit of fishing lines, many lead fishing weights, hooks, and even a fishing pole!

After the divers came out, Boyd and Fred cooked up a great BBQ - and everybody checked out the two big bags of trash that we

After the divers came out, Boyd and Fred cooked up a great BBQ - and everybody checked out the two big bags of trash that we brought up. Jonathan and I went for a kayak out to Redemption checking out the huge schools of bait fish on the way. When we got back, I got the last piece of Tri-tip - it had gone fast, and I tasted why! Everybody had a great time, and we hope to do this again next year.

Boyd wanted to make sure that everybody knew that he said a big thank you!

Also take a look at:

http://pierhead.freeservers.com/PierLog/Archives.html and look at the June log, or go directly to http://pierhead.freeservers.com/PierLog/Pier%20Log%20-%20June%202007.html#6-23-07 for Boyd's writeup.

Welcome New Divers!

John Kushwara

Willkommen! Benvenuto! Boa Vinda!

Paradise Dive Club Events

Coastal Clean Up Day

Saturday, September 29

Clean up at Tejiguas, 10am, picnic and camp out at noon at Refugio State Beach. The Club will provide latex gloves and trash bags for the clean up. We will also provide the sodas and meat for the picnic. Please bring something to share.

Local Dive Calendar September 2007

<u>Truth Aquatics 962-1127</u> call for prices, boats, and specific destinations, or go to their website; <u>www.truthaquatics.com</u>.

- 1 day Outer Islands, 4am dep., 9/9, 9/14, 9/22
- 1 day Rig Dive on Plat. Grace, 6am dep., 9/5
- 1 day Wreck Dive, SM1/Gosford, 4am dep., 9/12
- 2 day dive, 4am dep., 9/13
- 2 day dive, 1/2 of the boat is Truth Aqutcs, 4am dep. 9/23
- 2 day limited load Lobster Season Opener, 4am dep.,9/28
- 3 day Lobster Season Opener, 1/2 of the boat is Truth Aqutcs, 4am dep.,9/27
- 3 day limited load, 4am dep.9/6
- 3 day dive, 1/2 of the boat is Truth Aqutcs, 4am dep. 9/1



Its cold on land and in the sea! But hey! Who says cold and fun don't mix. Take a look at these pictures by Dave Burrough of his latest dive trip; north to Alaska and Canada on board the Nautilus Explorer. The Nautilus cruises Mexican waters during the winter and Alaskan and Canadian during the summer. Also onboard was PDC past president Patty Bryant!

Don't forget to ask Dave about the friendly Stellar Sea Lions, or at least the character who found divers to be quite enticing. These sea lions can be up to 3 times as big as our "shrimpy" local sea lions, but are equally as interested in visitors from hard ground.







PDC Thursday Night Dives!

To find out where the group will be 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, or send e-mail to PDC_midweek_dive.

Join the coolest club in town!

- 1. Monthly meetings with entertainment.
- 2. raffle prizes (we all need new dive
- 3. Great dive buddy pool
- 4. Beach and boat dives, AND weekly night dives
- 5. Club BBQs, and other activities
- 6. Free air-fills and gear discounts at local dive shops
- 7. Right to proudly wear the official PDC T-Shirt (nobody has a logo as cool as ours).



\$25/year for individuals, \$40 for families. Membership runs May-April and includes a monthly newsletter, free air-fills, and other benefits. For details or to join, contact Noah Philips at (626)-221-2056

Newsletter

Send newsletter items to Gretchen Beckert gbgreymutt@cox.net

Website

www.paradisediveclub.org



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