

PARADISE DIVE CLUB



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WWW.PARADISEDIVECLUB.ORG



President's Log by Steven Trainoff

Summer is in full force. The sun is shining. The water is warm. It is a perfect day to go to the beach. What's that next to you; a broken beer bottle, a few cigarette butts, or an old can of cheese whiz? It must mean that it is time for the annual Coastal Cleanup day.

Every year, the Paradise Dive Club teams up with the California Coastal Commission in an exercise that simultaneously makes me feel like I live in a community of pigs and reinforces my basic belief in the goodness of people. On Aug 15th we cleaned up our unofficially adopted beach at Tajiguas and with the Vandenburg Aqualiers picked up 245 lbs of trash and 225 lbs of recycling. Well done!

Also well done was the BBQ that followed. We had an abundance of food and drink. Mark and Kay cooked up a storm and we had a great selection of homemade salads, desserts, and cookies. In the afternoon, many of us hit the ocean and enjoyed the generally calm conditions and clear water. It was wonderfully warm 63F and after 72 minutes of bottom time, I wasn't the slightest bit cold. Noah Phillips and I checked out the reef near the point. Since the surf was so low we were able to get much closer to the point than usual and were treated to an abundance of shovelnose rays, bat rays, and even a halibut and octopus.

PDC also maintains an informational kiosk on the east side of the beach with photos that show the underwater sea life and provide information about the underwater park. Cheryl Weakleim and I took it apart and gave it a much-needed cleaning and facelift.



We had a great turnout with about 50 people attending. Thanks for everyone's efforts. I have to say the beach looks MARVELOUS. Lets hope that it stays that way!

🚫 Meeting Place 🚫

The September 25th meeting will take place at Petrini's Restaurant in Santa Barbara.
14 West Calle Laureles.

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

A Day in the Sun(fish) by Michael Ring

Finally! After two aborted attempts to dive on the Sunfish, I got the chance to head out to sea with the crew of the Sunfish. The prior attempts were cancelled due to not enough paying customers. Something about the cost of fuel in today's market. While I understood that problem, it was still disappointing. But hey, I was diving for free so I had to go with the flow.

So, the day came without the last minute cancellation, and down to Oxnard I went. Having not been to that harbor before, I got lost. Oh great, I thought. They finally head out when I am allowed to go with them and I'm gonna miss the boat. Thankfully, I have my cell phone and they are answering the call. Literally.

I get to the boat and load my gear. To quote their website: The boat was previously owned by Island Packers, in Ventura. It was used for a day shuttle and tour boat to the islands. It was completely renovated, from the deck being removed and replaced, to all new mechanical, electronics, and re-fiberglassed.... It has a live well, fresh hot water shower, private dressing room, mask rinse, camera tanks, self-service galley, low deck(two small steps down to dive platform) no ladders to climb, and two tank fill compressors(4500psi).

The crew is friendly and professional. They are eager to help and informative. We have about 6 students on board, so the dive sites are picked with care to insure that you don't get in over your head. Ok. A bad choice of words. But you get my drift. Ok. Another one.

We went out to Anacapa to scope out the dive sites. The Sunfish is 53' x 20' and is fairly fast, so the crossing did not take long. We did two dives before lunch and two after lunch. Between the morning dives they provided fresh cut fruit and hot chicken noodle soup, which was quite good, although having a slotted serving spoon for soup was a bit unusual. Suffice it to say that it hit the spot.

Lunch was a plate of various cold cuts and more fruit. The choice of meats and cheeses were nice, and the bread was large so no one went hungry. They had a variety of dessert snacks, cookies, brownies, and fruit. The fridge was stocked with soft drinks and water bottles that were more than adequate for the divers on board.

They have 4 hoses to refill the tanks, so there was no delay in getting into the water when we got to the dive sites. The rear dive step is easy to access, and there was no ladder to climb, so my old tired knees had no trouble getting back on the boat.

As noted above, they had a dressing room in the galley area that was very nice for changing. Knowing that it was the only one on the boat, and that I was diving a dry suit, I got geared up early so I did not have to fight for space.

As to the diving, what can I say? Anacapa Island was wonderful, as usual. The viz was between 25 and 30 feet. The temp was about 65 degrees. We swam in the kelp to our hearts content. A fairly large bat ray was the highlight of the trip. That and getting caught in a current while under water with a newly certified diver, requiring the rescue buoy to get back to the boat. Hey, I wanted to see how she could handle the unexpected.

All in all, it was another good day of diving. The sun came out in the afternoon, so the ride home was warm. Heading back we could see a massive cloud of smoke over the mountains behind Santa Barbara. It looked like an atomic bomb had detonated. Many on board were from out of the area (my dive buddies were from Denmark) and they were amazed at the effects of the Zaca fire.

The only negatives to the boat that I can report about the boat are that it does not have enough hand holds if the sea gets rough, and there is relatively little shade available when the sun comes out. Other than that, it was a good boat.

On returning to the harbor, I said goodbye to my new Danish friends, and thanked the captain and crew. Given the chance, I would definitely dive the Sunfish again. Especially if it was free.

Coastal Cleanup 2007

photos by Steven Trainoff



Laurel Mahler weighs all our "prizes"



Many hands make light work. Mike Macko has both of his filled.



Some people take collecting seriously - that bag is almost as big as Lilly Crestfield!

Paradise Dive Club Events

October

Underwater Pumpkin Carving Contest



November

Dive at La Jonelle in Ventura. November 3rd

Golf ball Invitational at Goleta Beach



December

PDC Holiday Party and White Whale Shark Gift Exchange
(there will be no general meeting in Dec.)

Local Dive Calendar

October 2007

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

1 day Bug Dive Outer Islands, 4am dep., 10/10, 10/17, 10/24, 10/31

2 day dive, 4am dep., 10/28

3 day dive, 4am dep. 10/29

3 day dive, 1/2 of the boat is Truth Aquatics, 4am dep. 10/18



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-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Join the coolest club in town!

1. Monthly meetings with entertainment.
2. raffle prizes (we all need new dive stuff)
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).

Dive Club Officers



President	Steven Trainoff	571-1622
Vice President	Mike Macko	687-7176
Treasurer	Mark Silva	453-2001
Secretary	Barbara Brown	
Membership	Noah Philips	(626)-221-2056
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Circulation	Ovidio Mora	683-4999
Sgt at Arms	Craig Adams	693-5835
Entertainment	Mark Bursek	564-1923
Raffle	Ralph Goldsen	681-0400
Historian	Cheryl Weakliem	967-2827

Membership

\$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 gbgreymult@cox.net

Website

www.paradisediveclub.org



P.O. Box 21311
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Many thanks to our sponsors for their generosity including air-fill donations and gear discounts!

Don't Forget!
Elections Are This Month!