



President's Log by Steven Trainoff

Every year Ed Stetson's reunion dive trip on the Conception heads to dive Santa Barbara Island, but rarely makes it. This time the winds of fortune smiled on us. SBI is known for its cold crystal clear waters, and abundant pinnipeds. It is a jewel in the crown of the Channel Islands.

This time the jewel was smiling brightly under clear sunny skies. Unfortunately the underwater conditions were less idyllic. Well, at least one part was true; the water was cold. I did five dives during the weekend, and of course the one dive I sat out because I wasn't feeling 100% was the one that everyone raved about. Doesn't it always work that way? I learned long ago that on any given trip, someone will see something interesting that you don't. This time was no exception. The cool sight of the trip was a patch of purple hydrocoral in a secret spot off of SBI.

I have dived long enough to know that sometimes events conspire against you. Part of dealing with it is to be prepared, service your equipment, and to dive within your limits. Sometimes that means knowing when to say when. For me it was a dose of big swell and an adverse reaction to the sea sickness medicine. For Gretchen it was a strong current pulling her away from the boat. As I am fond of saying, "There will always be another dive." There is no shame in calling a dive for any reason.

During the night we moved the boat from SBI to Santa Cruz Island. The winds had picked up and we were motoring directly into the swell. It was a bumpy crossing but for both of us the "other" dive was the next day. We had a nice tour through the kelp and were treated to a face-to-face encounter with a couple of inquisitive sea lions. It was just another weekend in Paradise.



What's So Funny Ed?

Bob Evens Explaining the Finer Points of Fin Design



A Sunflower Star Looking For Slower Prey

Laurel Suiting Up

🚫Paradise Dive Club Events🚫

July 2008

19 - Beach Dive and Picnic
(Place TBD)

August 2008

possible Santa Cruz campout

September 2008

Coastal Clean Up Day (date TBD)

🚫Local Dive Calendar🚫

July 2008

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

1 day kayak/snorkel 9am dep., 7/1, 7/2, 7/8, 7/9, 7/15, 7/16, 7/22, 7/23

1 day wreck dive, SM1/Gosford, 4am dep., 7/25

2 day Wreck/Oil Rig dive, 4am dep., 7/6

3 day dive, San Clemente Island 10pm dep., 7/5, 7/9

3 day dive 4am dep., 7/10 (1/2 trip is Truth Aquatics)

3 day Halibut dive 4am dep., 7/26 (1/2 trip is Truth Aquatics)

3 day limited load dive 4am dep., 7/13

3 day Island Excursion, 4am dep., 7/20

Anacapa Dive Center 963-8917 All dives are onboard the Peace (Ventura) and leave at 7am.

2 day dive to Catalina, Santa Barbara Islands 7/11

Trips to Exotic Places!

Anacapa Dive Center 963-8917,

Indonesia, with add-on to Bali

May 2009

Get Out and Dive!



Jerry Sorich has posted a video of a shark dive in Bora Bora and a dive of platform grace at (turtles not included):

<http://web.mac.com/jerrysorich/Underwater/Welcome.html>

Summer Reading

Here is an excerpt from Lance "the one armed Bandit" Renka's upcoming book - *Close Encounters of the Third Kind - Under Water. Enjoy!* - Gretchen

There I was, at Avalon's diver park at Catalina Island, standing on the bottom in 60 feet of water, minding my own business, when a four-foot wide female torpedo ray just swam up to me, and positioned eye-ball-to-eye-ball. I was sure that the lessons I had taught it's predecessors about avoiding divers, had been passed on, so the only explanation I could come up with was that she wanted to play. No-sense-no-feeling me, I was over sixty feet and probably narked out of my gourd by nitrogen narcosis, decided I'd try to pet this apparently friendly creature. Having had some experience with females, I used mental telepathy on the ray, *"Hey good looking, I love the perfectly rounded body with that cute little indentation for your nose. Your little, beady, black eyes really look great. I love the way your steel blue back with the black spots blends perfectly with your pure white belly."* She remained hovering motionless in front of me about four feet off the bottom, enjoying my admiration of her style, so I continued, *"But what really sets you apart from other rays is your gorgeous short tail with the rounded fins."* She took the complement well and continued to look me over. I listened intently, trying to pick up what she thought about me.

I knew from reading about these U/W UFOs that they hunt by wrapping their wings around an unsuspecting prey, and then discharge up to 600 volts DC. The prey is stunned and then eaten by the ray. When applied to humans, that voltage with the amperage they release is powerful enough to knock your fillings out, render you unconscious and/or disable you. I deduced that the ray only had bio-electric cells on its bottom side and therefore I could, if I was careful, pet the ray on its top side, that makes sense, right?

Confident I could out-manuever the ray, I looked around to make sure of my escape route, signaled my intentions to my buddy, Gene Battaglia, trimmed out my buoyancy, checked my fins (my escape motor), and reached my hand out very slowly. I touch the ray on the left side of her head two inches back from the edge of her body with just one fingertip, just in case my theory was wrong.

Complimenting her again, I said, *"Do you use algin from the kelp or some special kind of fish oil to keep your skin feeling so velvety soft?"* I moved my hand back and forth a couple inches, petting the ray. Miss Ray didn't try to move away, so I got a little braver and reverting to my youthful dating behavior, began my advances. Remembering a Navy marching song, *"Eeny, meeny, miny, mo, how much farther can I go. If I promise not to pinch, can I go another inch,"* I put more fingers on her back, and said, *"How would you like a back and head massage?"*

Thinking I had received a positive response from her, I stroked her back some more while she looked at me with partially closed eyes and just hung there suspended in space. My courage and curiosity expanding, I slide my flat hand between her eyes. Each time I stroked her, she winked her eyes at me. I thought, *"I wonder if torpedo rays wink at each other when they flirt."*

To find out the end of the story you will have to contact Lance. He can be contacted at: scubalust@aol.com, www.The-Grand-Puba-of-SCUBA.com

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

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 nphilips@gmail.com

Newsletter

Send newsletter items to Gretchen Beckert gbgreymutt@cox.net

Website

www.paradisediveclub.org

Dive Club Officers

President	Steven Trainoff	571-1622
Vice President	Geof McFarland	685-6001
Treasurer	Mark Silva	453-2001
Secretary	Jim Axtell	685-9025
Membership	Noah Philips	nphilips@gmail.com
Newsletter	Gretchen Beckert	571-1622
Circulation	Ovidio Mora	683-4999
Sgt at Arms	Akiles Ceron	564-1230
Entertainment	Mark Bursek	564-1923
Historian	Cheryl Weakliem	967-2827

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).



P.O. Box 21311
Santa Barbara, CA 93121

Sponsors!

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805-967-4456

Blue Water Hunter

117-D Harbor Way
Santa Barbara, Ca 93109
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Truth Aquatics

301 W. Cabrillo Blvd.
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
805-962-1127

Anacapa Dive Center

22 Anacapa St
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
805-963-8917

Many thanks to our sponsors for their generosity including air-fill donations and gear discounts!

🚫 **Meeting Place** 🚫

The June 24 meeting will take place at
Petrini's Restaurant in Santa Barbara.
14 West Calle Laureles.

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