Paradise Dive Club

Volume 18, Issue 08

August 2009



President's Log

Get Involved

Michael Ring President

Here it is the end of summer, 2009. Elections are upon us. The Club is taking a trip to San Diego to dive the Yukon. Beach Clean Up Day is a week later. The holidays are just around the corner. What a perfect time to get involved in your club.

As you know, the Club is a fluid group of people who share a common interest: Scuba Diving. But we share more than that. We are a group of individuals who care about our sport, the environment we dive in, and our community. Over the past several years Paradise Dive Club of Santa Barbara has taken on many civic minded responsibilities.

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We clean our local beaches. Our members assist in doing fish counts. We donate both time and money to local causes, within the dive world and otherwise.

Now though, the Club is going through a bit of a rough road. As the economy is struggling, our membership is slowly reducing. Is it that we are all too strapped to pay the relatively small dues, or is time at a premium as we try to make ends meet?

Either way, as a group we all need to remember that we are a member supported organization. We do not get much financial assistance from the outside. Yes, our sponsors help with discounted products, but that is not what sustains us as an entity. It is the members themselves. Whether that be by paying dues, buying raffle tickets or otherwise, we still rely on ourselves to keep going.

Part of the contribution that we expect from our membership includes time. Board spots need to be filled. Assistance needs to be given at events. Presentations at the Club meetings can be arranged. Newsletter articles need to be submitted. Even as simple an act as showing up at the Club monthly meetings helps keep our Club vibrant.

Ideas for activities and events need to come from you, the members. Suggestions as to where to go, and when, are useful when we are sitting around either at the regular meetings or at the Board meetings. Remember, this is your club. You should have a say in how it grows. How it develops. What path it takes as we dive into the future.

Get involved. ■

Monterey Bay Aquarium

Monterey Aquarium now has a program for children 9 thru 13 years old called "The Underwater Explorers". If you have kids, grandkids, or nieces and nephews that you would like to stimulate toward Scuba, this program is for you. We signed our 9 year old granddaughter up for the \$80 program and went to the Aquarium with her. They take 12 kids per session and have 3 sessions per day. There are 3 kids per dive master.

It is held in the large marine pool between the aquarium and the ocean. The divers are suited up in full dry suits with everything but weights. The dive masters prep them on breathing from regulators and then lead them into the pool. The divers float on the surface but breathe from small 20 ft³ tanks. They are led around the pool while the dive master points out various. Urchins, seacucumbers and such.

After the session is over, all the kids get hot chocolate while they fill out their "dive logs". These logs are just like the ones that we use. They even put the kids pictures on them. The whole program takes 2 hours from start to finish. Our granddaughter thought that it was really exciting and she is pumped to learn to dive when she is old enough. We felt that it was well worth the money.

If you haven't been to the Monterey

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MONTHLY MEETING

WHEN & WHERE: TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 29TH, 6:30 AT PETRINI'S

BOARD MEETING

WHEN & WHERE: TUESDAY OCTOBER 6TH, TBA

MONTHLY DECOMPRESSION STOP

When & Where: Friday Oct. $9^{^{\text{TH}}}$, 5:30 at Endless Summer Café

YUKON DIVE IN SAN DIEGO

When & Where: September 12^{TH @} 8:00 Sharp Arriving on the 11^{TH IS} Recommended

BEACH CLEANUP

WHEN & WHERE: SEPTEMBER 19TH WE'LL HAVE OUR TAJIGUAS BEACH CLEANUP

Aquarium in a while, it is worth the trip. They have opened a new exhibit "The Secret Life of Seahorses". The exhibit is right next to the Jellies and rivals it.

They have 6 or 8 displays of different sea horses from the common blacks to the rare, leafy seadragons and pot bellied seahorses. The tanks are set up so that viewing and even photography is easy. Put the Monterey Aquarium on your list of things to do.





Dear Crabby:

Is it true that you can get STDs from a used regulator?

Drying out.

Dear Holding:

Well, aren't you the kinky one?! Actually, cleaning your scuba gear because bacteria strains like staphylococcus (staph), salmonella and tuberculosis can be found in the water where we dive. Additionally, fungal infections such as Candida albicans can be spread and cause illness. It is possible to contract HIV, hepatitis C, herpes simplex and influenza through scuba equipment that has not been properly cleaned. Here is a link to a web site that will provide more information: http://www.ehow.com/how 4964752 cleanscuba-gear-bleach.html



Dear Crabby:

Recently I went diving on a wreck and smacked into a pole sticking out of the deck of the wreck at about 85 feet. Please warn your readers to be careful as they dive wrecks. The unexpected can be quite dangerous. And painful, too!

Bruised.

Dear Bruised:

Thanks for the heads up. Next time, maybe you should keep your head up.

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BEACH ORCA

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 <u>PDC_midweek_dive-subscribe@yahoogroups.com</u>

Membership Join the Coolest \$25/year for individuals, \$40 for families. Membership runs May-April **Club in Town!** and includes a monthly newsletter, free air-fills, and other benefits. For details or to join, contact Noah Philips at: membership@paradisediveclub.org. 1. Monthly meetings with entertainment. 2. Raffle prizes (we all need new dive stuff) Great dive buddy pool Beach and boat dives, AND weekly night dives Newsletter Send newsletter items to Stuart Ponder at: 5. Club BBQs, and other activities webmaster@paradisediveclub.org 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). Website www.paradisediveclub.org **Dive Club Officers** President Michael Ring info@paradisediveclub.org Vice President Geof McFarland Treasurer Mark Silva Secretary **Akiles Ceron** Noah Philips Membership membership@paradisediveclub.org Newsletter Stuart Ponder webmaster@paradisediveclub.org Circulation Jim Axtell Entertainment Steve Trainoff



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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 Sept. 29th meeting will take place at Petrini's Restaurant in Santa Barbara. 14 West Calle Laureles.

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