

Paradise Dive Club

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Presidents Log

Membership Has Its Privileges

President

Michael Ring

Membership Has Its Privileges

As membership renewal time is approaching, I started thinking about reasons why one should be a member of **Paradise Dive Club** of Santa Barbara. While doing so, I remembered my time as a Boy Scout learning the ropes and hearing a phrase uttered by some of the more senior scouts throwing their weight around and stating when questioned "Rank has its privileges!" While that line always rankled me, as it turns out, it was true. Now as a member of our Club, I have come to realize that the line, with a slight modification, can apply to membership in the Club.

So, what privileges and benefits come from being a member of **Paradise Dive Club** of Santa Barbara? There are more than you thought.

The obvious one is getting to read all the really cool articles in the Newsletter (shameless plug!). You also get a free air card with your membership that more than covers the costs of joining. I mean 6 fills per month! What a deal! All of our sponsors give us discounts at their stores, 10% on purchased items, and 12% on dive trips.

We provide several resources for diving information, from notification of events within the Club in the dive community in general, to the new Facebook page that you can join and log on to see if anyone is going diving and needs a buddy, to links on our website.

We have interesting presentations at the monthly Club meetings, and social hours at the

Endless Summer Café once a month to get to know your fellow members outside of diving.

We do really fun parties at local dive sites where we get to see the local conditions and have great Bar B Q meals and fun times, such as underwater pumpkin carving contests, or golf ball challenges.

The Club is civic minded. Twice a year we go up to Tajiguas and clean the beach, then party again. This year we will be taking excursions to SBCC Tech to play with their commercial diving toys, do an oil rig dive, go to the destroyers off Pt. Conception, and do a Santa Cruz campout and a kayak trip.

The Club offers so much to we members, yet can offer so much more. We are limited only by the creativeness and spirit of the members to contribute to the overall Club experience.

As with any social organization, you get out of the Club in direct proportion to what you put into it. The more you as a member enhance our group, the more you as a participant gain from the experience. So become active in your Club. Show up at the meetings regularly. Go to the beach clean up. Do the pumpkin carving. These events are fun. And they are either free or inexpensive.

Go on-line and sign up for the Facebook page. Write a Newsletter article, or submit some pictures of your favorite dive site. Come to the monthly deco-stop and have some fun. And all that for only \$25.00!

Underwater Video Photography in 2010

After a few years of suiting up, diving in and burning an 80 cubic ft tank exploring the flora and fauna of many diverse locations, I began to question, "Is this all there is.?" Hunting had lost a lot of its call as I had watched the fish populations dwindle. So I took up photography. Going on a great dive with lots of new and beautiful sights takes on a whole new perspective when you have a camera in hand. For one, your focus changes. You are looking for that great shot, that uncaptured image or critter. Not only that, but after you surface, you can revisit and share your experience. For this reason, I have found video to be the most rewarding underwater photography. Once you have shot a dive in its entirety, you can relive it over and over. I have many videos on my IPOD and watch them on airplanes to kill the boredom. As I watch the video, it refreshes the memory of the places and dives that I have taken. I, in essence, relive the dives.

Underwater video photography has taken great leaps in the last few years, that make it more accessible and affordable than ever. The days of big, bulky, expensive housings are giving way to small, "FLIP" cameras, the size of an "I Phone". Not only are these cameras capable of producing HD level images, but the cost of a complete set-up is less than \$1000. My video rig cost in the range of \$4000, 10 years ago. A typical video camera, housing, lights, lenses and chargers weigh in at 25 lbs. New airlines gear and pricey to Oh, and by the way, the resolution cameras make it take a still frame for printed photos. This eliminates the age old "Which camera do I take on this dive?" I used to travel with both video and still camera rigs. Every time I had the still camera, there would be a great video opportunity and vice-versa.



Lets look at a typical rig starting with the camera. There are many options but most of the cameras are 4"x 2" x 3/4" and weigh less than 6

oz. You can record 120minutes of video on an 8G card and down load via USB to your computer. (Windows or Mac) They feature 2 inch viewing screens and widescreen, x 720) at 30 seconds (fps) scan. The new cameras They do a auto focus you use a red filter and no you can get a of exactly what the divers saw.



shoot in 16:9 HD 720p (1280 frames per progressive lenses on these are fantastic. great job with and color. If color-correcting secondary lights, terrific rendition

These cameras list at \$175 to \$250 MSRP. As with any underwater camera buy, always check the housings before you buy a camera.

Speaking of housings, there are quite a few out there. Ikelite makes housings for the JVC and FLIP by Pure Digital. Both housings give you access to all the controls and optional lenses.



You can get filters, macro lenses for a cost of camera are both Beware of that have housings.

color correction and wide angle fraction of the standard video lenses. They rated to 200ft. Flip Cameras "water proof"

These housings are made to protect the camera around the water or pool. Most are only rated to 15 or 30 foot depth. While this is fine for a sports camera, it isn't adequate for an underwater housing. Housings run \$250 to \$300MSRP

Finally lights! Lights for underwater photography have tended to be very expensive and heavy. Multiple "D"



batteries or rechargeable have added a expense and the light However, the are more lighter and use batteries. The V8 has: 8 C batteries with a 10 hr burn time. It produces 15 watts at high intensity, is rated to 300ft and only weighs 2.2 lbs. The MSRP is \$250.

batteries lot of weight to packages. new led lites efficient, smaller Ikelite Pro-

So you can put together a good underwater video rig for under \$1000 including a good case that you can carry on and come home with a record of your whole trip...topside to depth, that you can share and relive over and over.



We are excited to announce our annual trip for 2010 is to Turks and Caicos! Are you craving warm water diving?

Dates: July 16th - 24th

Includes:

- * Airfare and airport transfers
- * 7 night accommodations
- * 6 days of 2 tank dives with Oasis Divers
- * Unlimited tanks for shore dives
- * All government taxes

Price: \$2,080

Upgrade to Suite Room: \$92

Contact: Anacapa Dive Center.com

Santa Cruz Campout

How would you like to spend some time this summer on an exotic island? Then come join us on Santa Cruz island when we campout at Scorpion Ranch. Currently, our plans are to secure a group campsite for the 4th of July weekend (Fri, Sat and Sun). If you would like to go but can't make it that weekend, we are open to changing the dates to either the weekend before or the weekend after the 4th of July. If there is enough interest in changing the date we will. Contact Rich Cirincione (rjcirincione@verizon.net) if you would like to see the date changed. We will commit to a date at the March meeting and secure the campsite.

If you have never been camping on Santa Cruz island a good resource is the National Parks web site at <http://www.nps.gov/chis/planyourvisit/camping.htm> or Island Packers at <http://islandpackers.com/>. Island Packers is the authorized concessionaire providing transportation to and from the island.

Please note that the club will be providing only the campsite. You will be responsible for getting to and from the island as well as providing your own camping gear and food. If you would like to go but are in need of some gear or have questions about making travel arrangements post an e-mail to our Yahoo group site or bring it up at the March meeting. Look for more information about the campout in next month's newsletter.

From the Distribution Desk...

This will be the last month that the newsletter will be mailed to everyone. Starting with the April newsletter we hope to distribute the monthly newsletter primarily by posting it to our web site and sending an e-mail notification with a link to the current issue.

Each person on the club newsletter distribution list for whom we have an e-mail address should have been notified via e-mail that this March issue is available on-line. If the March e-mail notification does not come back as undeliverable, starting with the April issue, the newsletter will come to you in electronic form only. We will work to resolve returned notifications.

April is membership renewal month. You can update your e-mail address at the time of your renewal or by contacting Sharon Coffield at: membership@paradisediveclub.org

If we do not have a usable e-mail address for you, you will continue to receive your newsletter in the mail until such time as we do. Our dive shop sponsors and Sea Landing will also continue to receive monthly printed copies.

Earth Day Clean Up

Once again, we will clean up Tajiguas Beach on Sat April 24th. Meet at Refugio beach for coffee, donuts and to get bags. Then we will go to Tajiguas to do the cleanup. Afterwards, we will have a BBQ and beach dive at Refugio. Bring gloves and a pickup stick if you have one.

Membership Renewal

April is membership renewal time. Please bring your \$25.00 check to the meeting.

Upcoming Club Events

Earth Day April 24- Tajiguas Beach Clean Up and dive

Platform Grace Oil Rig Dive- tba

Wrecks off Point Conception - tba

Island Packers Santa Cruz Camp Trip-tba

Kayak from Goleta Beach to Leadbetter-tba

For those of you who don't own a kayak, we can arrange for a rental with drop off at Goleta beach for around \$50....depending on how many

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 Sharon Coffield at:

membership@paradisediveclub.org

Newsletter

Send newsletter items to Jerry Sorich at

jasorich@cox.net

Website

www.paradisediveclub.org

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

info@paradisediveclub.org

| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| President | Michael Ring |
| Vice President | Akiles Ceron |
| Treasurer | Jim Axtell |
| Secretary | John Kushwara |
| Membership | Sharon Coffield |
| Newsletter | Jerry Sorich |
| Circulation | Rich Cirincione |
| Entertainment | Steve Trainoff |
| Webmaster | Stuart Ponder |
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805-967-4456

Blue Water Hunter

117 D Harbor Way
Santa Barbara, CA 93109
805-564-6677

Truth Aquatics

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

Anacapa Dive Center

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

Meeting Place

The March 30th meeting will take place at
Petrini's Restaurant in Santa Barbara.
14 West Calle Laureles.