

April 2011

President's Log

I am happy to say I have checked a few more boxes in my dive log. I can now answer "Yes" when someone asks if I have seen a dolphin while diving. I've seen several Splendid Toadfish, watched a school of ten Eagle Rays gliding in the current, seen a large Amberjack suspended at a cleaning station, witnessed the "snowstorm" of spawning Barrel Sponges, and more.

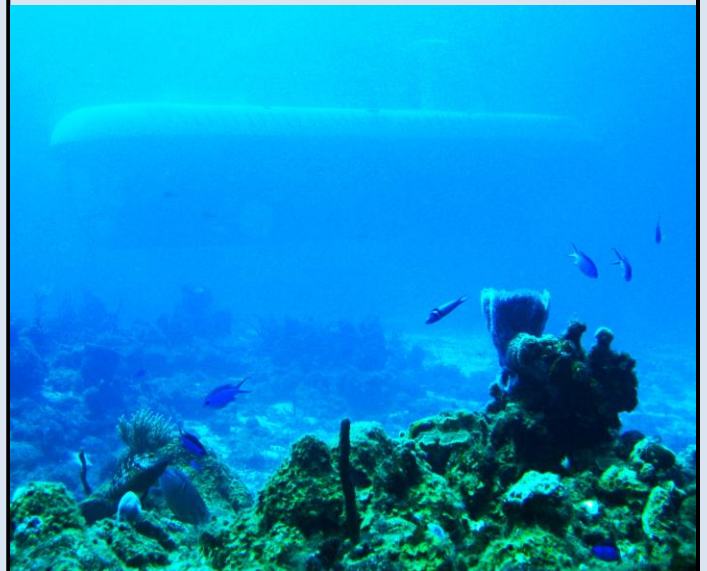
Our week spent at Cozumel was a hit for all three of us. We did have some inconsistency in the visibility and a day or two of rough seas, but no days where the conditions kept us from diving. It sounded funny to us Santa Barbarans to hear the dive master complain about 70 feet visibility.

The three of us all had one dive that we agreed was exceptional, that being a night dive. I was told a night dive there is a "must do" and I can't agree more. We aren't sure what it was about night diving there that makes it so exceptional, but we agree it was our most impressive ever. The life was plentiful, with enormous crabs strolling around, numerous lobsters (including slipper), eels, octopi displaying their array of colors in a matter of seconds, again the endemic splendid toadfish pretending it was not there under a ledge, and Erwan directing us to cover our lights so we could enjoy the bioluminescent dinoflagellates.

If, at times, there is more to your life than diving, this island has more to offer too. We spent the last day enjoying the Mayan ruins and touring an island whose eastern coastline drive we found as beautiful as Maui's, minus all the hype. The museum of the island (downtown) is amazingly well done and very educational.

In my opinion, the best aspect of the island has to be the people. We found all the locals to be friendly, open, and honest. We developed a great rapport with our dive master and had a great lunch with him on our last day. The dive business for the locals does not boil down to bringing US dollars to the island. They genuinely want to share this piece of paradise.
Brad

Erwan's What's it?



**Answer to March Erwan's What's it:
Stripey or *Microanthus strigatus*.
According to the Hoover Guide to
Hawai'i's Fishes, the Stripey is a rare
fish seldom encountered by divers and
snorkelers around the main HI islands.
The photo was taken near the St.
Anthony wreck, near Maui.**

Valérie Lent

CALENDAR ANNOUNCEMENT

Here is a note from Christopher Sheckler from California Diving News. Don't forget this event:

SCUBA Show 2011 — June 4 - 5, 2011, Long Beach Convention Center, Long Beach, CA

The SCUBA Show, America's Largest Consumer Dive Expo, will take place June 4-5, 2011 at the Long Beach Convention Center in Long Beach, California. This is the 24th year of this popular event. The show will consist of 76,000 square feet of diving related exhibits including new and revolutionary dive gear, equipment bargains, travel pros (many offering show discounts), and diving experts. Several exhibitors also offer free drawings for valuable prizes. The first 1,000 people in attendance on Saturday and Sunday will receive complementary tote bags and major door prize drawings will be taking place throughout the day.

Highlighting the exhibit hall will be a personal appearance by world famous artist Wyland. On Saturday he will be interacting with attendees while painting a new piece of art and on Sunday he will be painting an ocean mural with participation from children in attendance.

Legendary underwater filmmaker Stan Waterman will be headlining a weekend of seminars that include some of the most popular dive experts around. Some of the presenters include Marty Snyderman, Jack and Sue Drafahl, Bruce Watkins, Dale Sheckler, Ken Knezick, Ken Kurtis, and more. Subjects covered include underwater photography and video, marine life, dive travel, dive medicine, gear, and California diving.

A continuous underwater film festival will be running in the exhibit hall on a three-story high screen and will feature films from around the world by over a dozen underwater imaging experts.

Exhibit hall hours are Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Admission is \$12 and includes admission to exhibit hall and film festival (seminars are an additional charge). Discount coupons are available at California dive stores, on California dive charter boats and through California dive clubs. Age 13 and under are admitted free. For information on SCUBA Show 2011 call (310) 792-2333 or visit the web site www.ScubaShow.com. Advanced registration online at ScubaShow.com is strongly encouraged to save time and money.

I hope some of us can go and tell the club about their exciting visit.

Valérie Lent

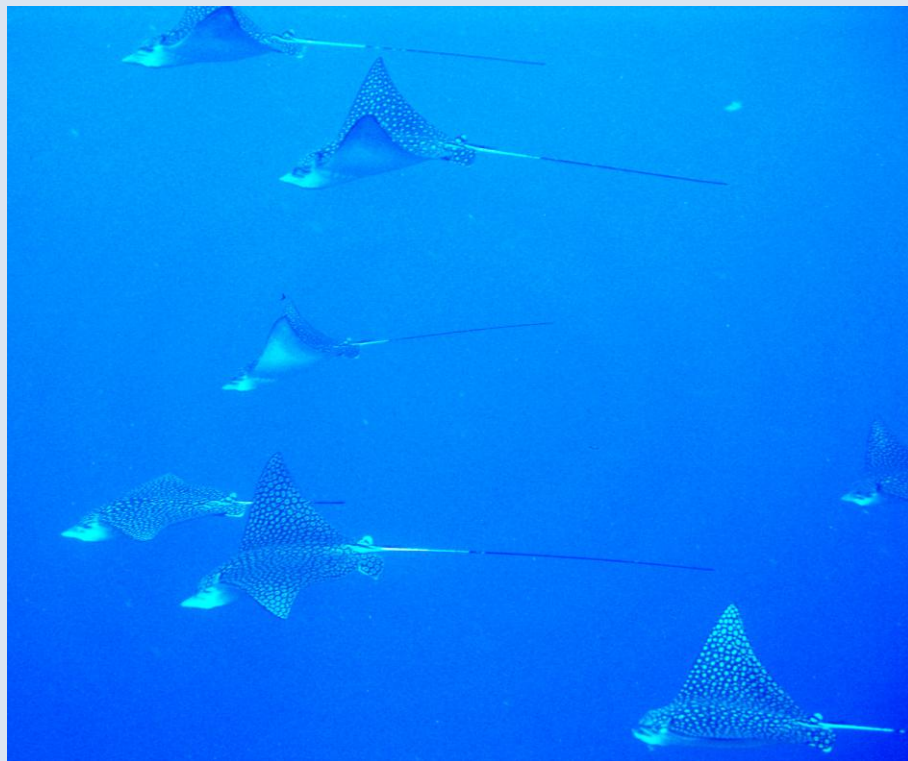
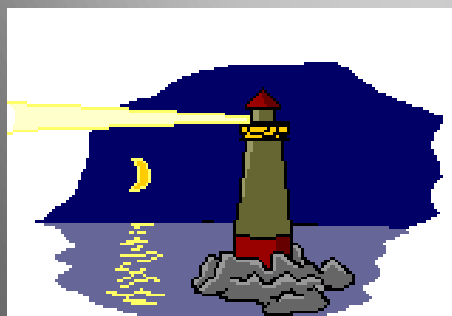
Photos by Erwan Lent

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](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/PDC_midweek_dive), OR SEND E-MAIL TO

PDC_midweek_dive_subscribe@yahoo.com



Deco Stop

The Friday the week after the monthly club meeting at 5:30 PM
Endless Summer Bar and Grill on the Waterfront



Dive Club Officers

President	Brad Lent info@paradisediveclub.org
Vice President	Steve Senesac
Treasurer	Jim Axtell
Secretary	Rich Cirincione
Membership	Jim Axtell membership@paradisediveclub.org
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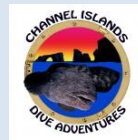
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