

# PARADISE DIVE CLUB

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## Upcoming Meetings

**Club meetings at Cody's Cafe**  
7:00pm, but show up early for dinner and socializing.

- January 26
- February 23
- March 29

## Deco Stops

5:30pm, 2nd Friday  
after the club meetings

## Club Sponsors

- [Truth Aquatics](#)
- [Santa Barbara Aquatics](#)
- [Blue Water Hunter](#)
- [The Eagle Inn](#)
- [Channel Island Dive Adventures](#)

## President's Thoughts

*Paul Bullock*

It always seems to happen to me. I know when the day is. I understand where it fits on the calendar. I know I need to make plans. I know people are expecting me to do some-thing. But then the day is upon me and I forgot. Or I didn't do what I wanted to do because the days rushed towards me. Perhaps I have an organizational problem. Or maybe I'm just lazy. I don't know. I always mean well and have great ideas. Just not enough extra time to implement those fantastic plans.

So here's a head's up to everybody. Put things on a calendar and set reminders and memos so that two weeks prior you get a reminder. Ten days prior you get a reminder. Etc etc. That way you won't end up like me. (by the way, I don't do this but I think I'm gonna start!)

As I'm writing this I just realized that Thanksgiving is actually tomorrow. What? already?

How did that happen. It was just two weeks ago that I told myself that I should go get a turkey and brine it and....tomorrow's already here. Aaarrgghhh.

I attended a seminar last year and the speaker was talking about how we go through life. Do you have a plan? Do you set goals? Where do you want to be in one year, five years, ten years? If you don't set a



### Dive Club Officers

President	Paul Bullock
Vice President	Tim Doherty
Past President	Kellen Tobin
Treasurer	Jim Axtell
Secretary	Véronique Lisi
Membership	Ludovico Cavedon
Sgt. at Arms	Michel Giroux
Entertainment	Juan Beltranena
Social Media	Jacek Smits
Publications	Jacek Smits

### Mission Statement

Paradise Dive Club is a diving and social club. The Club provides a setting that allows continued growth in our sport and one where friendships can develop and flourish. Paradise Dive Club promotes fun, safe diving related activities and environmental awareness. The Club was founded to provide social and recreational opportunities to people with mutual interests in snorkeling, scuba and free diving, and to educate and inform its members and the general public in matters related to diving and the ocean, particularly in regard to issues involving coastal Santa Barbara County.

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- [Meetup](#)                      [WWW](#)

plan, how will you ever achieve what you are hoping to achieve? I find this useful although I don't apply it as effectively as I should. There's one area in my life that I do use it. I sign up for a race (bike, running, triathlon etc) and then work backwards from the date of the race to determine how to train for that event. I'm going to do the Solvang Century Bike Ride in mid-March. So I know I feasibly only have 8 or 9 weekends to do some long training rides. I know already, that this will be a difficult ride for me because I won't be prepared enough. But I'll do the ride anyway.

Well I expect that's enough insight into my mind for now. I wish you all happy and safe holidays and look forward to seeing you all at the upcoming club events. – Put them on your calendars and set reminders!

## Pumpkin Carving Contest

*Staff Writer*

On October 24 the club held its annual Pumpkin Carving Contest at Goleta Beach. In the end there were four entries



*Winner Tim Doherty - Photo by Juan Beltranena*



*Close-up of Tim's pumpkin - Photo by Tim Doherty*

competing for this highly coveted prize and after some tense moments of deliberation by the jury, Tim Doherty was declared the winner with his pumpkin titled *A Diver's Last Moments*. The carving was clearly inspired by the sheer number of shark sightings this year. Congratulations to Tim!

Is it just me or does that look like a grin on the shark's face? This is the second year the club held three different competitions: Pumpkin Carving, Golf Ball Challenge, and Underwater Photography. Again, we were not able to hand out the *Triple Crown*. Keep the streak going! Admittedly, this is partially due to the fact that the Golf Ball Challenge didn't happen this year

so only two of the three competitions actually took place. We'll do better next year!

## First Saturday of the Month

*Jacek Smits*

The First Saturday Dive in October was held at Hendry's Beach. Five people showed up and dove straight out from the steps. The wave action wasn't too bad but it was a little choppy at the surface. There was some surge but visibility was good (15-20 feet). Shallow you have some grasses and farther out there were some patches of kelp and rocks. Lots of little fishes, calico bass, and juvenile Garibaldi. Also a few short lobsters and reports of octopus sightings. It turned out to be a very nice dive. Furthermore, it was a gorgeous day at Hendry's Beach. Although, I do think those big smiles on Ivan's and Rich's face had more to do with the fact that, as of a week earlier, they were no longer serving on the club's board and finally had some time to go diving again.



*Ivan Girling and Rich Cirincione at Hendry's Beach*

On November 7 we opted for a night dive as the tides and tidal changes seemed to favor that option that particular day. We picked Hendry's Beach again so that those who attended the October FSotM would have a chance to see the same site under very different conditions. Five people showed up for this dive. The ocean was flat and the visibility was very good (albeit a little dark). The water temperature had





*Turbot at Hendry's Beach - Photo by Tim Doherty*

dropped to 62°F. We saw lots of (short) lobsters, a shovelnose guitarfish, prawns, lots of swimming crabs, a small turbot, and an octopus sighting was also reported. It was a great dive. Afterwards there was an impromptu Deco Stop at the Boathouse because, well, it was right there and we were cold.

The next FSotM will be on the Vision boat of [Truth Aquatics](#). It'll be December 5 with a 3am departure and the destination is listed as Santa Rosa / San Miguel.

At publishing time of this newsletter there are still spots available. Come join us and check the [Meetup](#) page for updates. Call Truth Aquatics to book your spot: (805) 962-1127.

## Club Business

*Staff Writer*

### *Lobster / Chicken Bake*

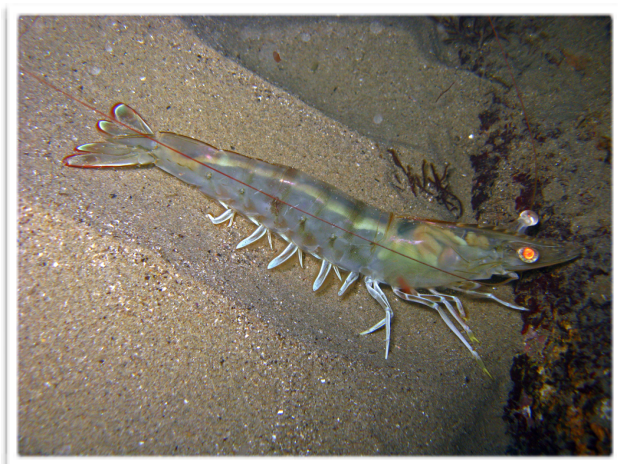
The Club's Board would like to thank club members Steven & Gretchen for generously hosting a lobster & chicken bake for our club's members at their home to honor both the opening of lobster season and their move into their new home. While the event may have been somewhat short of lobster (even though there were no short lobsters!), there was plenty of food and an abundance of good people and fun! Don't miss it next time Steven & Gretchen offer to host an event.

### *Meeting Place*

The president announced at the November club meeting that there is a good chance that the meeting location for the club is going to change starting January. Keep an eye out for announcements on the *Meetup* and *Facebook* pages for updates.

### *Holiday Party*

The club's president sent a sign-up sheet around during the November club meeting for members to indicate whether or not they will go to the holiday party and, if so, what they will bring. The holiday party is December 12. Check the club's [Meetup](#) page for additional details and to RSVP.



*Prawn at Hendry's Beach. Photo by Jacek Smits*



## Kellen Tobin

At the November club meeting Kellen Tobin was recognized for his dedication to the sport. About a week earlier he had passed his SSI Instructor evaluation and is now a certified and licensed SSI scuba instructor. Congratulations to Kellen!

## From The Archives

### Jacek Smits

While doing a little maintenance work on the club's website I found myself getting distracted and ended up browsing through some old newsletters. Look at those prices for a day trip to the islands in 2005 (screenshot to the right)! The [October 2005](#) newsletter included a report on the heroic return of the Conception to Santa Barbara after extensive repairs that were necessary after it was stolen from her berth in March 2005 and ran aground near Point Arguello.

Additionally, it had a trip report on a dive vacation to Bonaire by Jerry Sorich which included a dig on the Dutch who, according to Jerry, will travel anywhere to lie in the sun and get a sunburn. Fortunately, I'm not Dutch anymore so I'm OK with that statement. Besides, Jerry is basically correct. That same newsletter also has a great story by Carl Gwinn on how he ended up with an octopus tattoo on his forehead after surfacing with unusual headgear in the *Strait of Juan de Fuca* (see photo below). It was also published on [Blue Planet Divers](#) and is definitely worth a read.

Go visit the [archive of the club's newsletters](#) and immerse yourself a bit in the history of our club during these long winter evenings.

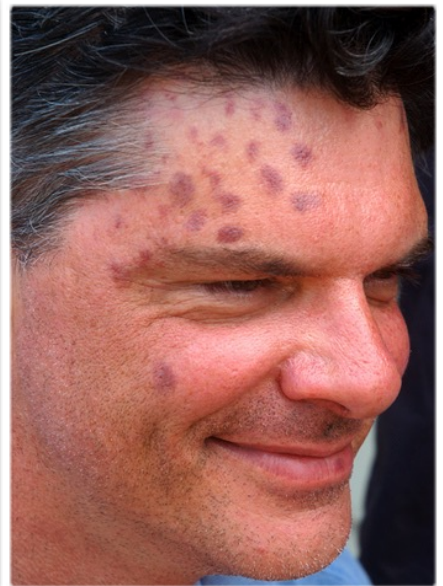
## Upcoming Club Events

Check the club's [Meetup](#) pages for details on these events:

- First Saturday of the Month dives: December 5, January 2, February 6
- Holiday Party: December 12
- The club's board is working hard on setting the calendar for 2016

### October Boat Trips

- Sun., 10/9, 11 a.m. departure on *Spectre*, \$85. Call Aquatics, 967-4456.
- Sat., 10/22, 7 a.m. departure on *Spectre*, \$85. Call Aquatics, 967-4456.
- Sun., 10/23, 7 a.m. departure on *Spectre*, \$85. Call Aquatics, 967-4456.
- Sun., 10/30, 6 a.m. departure on *Truth*, \$100 (incl. food). Call Anacapa Dive Center, 963-8917



## Odds & Ends

*Staff Writer*

### *Local Spearfisher Fights off Hammerhead Shark*

This is an interview with a spearfisher who was attacked by a hammerhead at Santa Cruz. Link to the article at [The Independent](#).

### *Eel Curls Up To Increase Shock Output*

Researchers at Vanderbilt University in Nashville found that the electric eel (*Electrophorus electricus*) curls up to increase the output of its electric shock so it can effectively stun larger prey. Article at [Scientific American](#).

### *New Marine Reserves*

Chile created the largest marine reserve in the Americas by declaring the area around the Desventuradas Islands protected. Article at [National Geographic](#). Palau has recently declared some 80% of its waters from extractive activities such as fishing and mining. Article at [National Geographic](#).

### *Ancient Supershark Found in Texas*

Fossils were found of a 26 feet long shark that lived 300 million years ago. Link to article at the [Discovery Channel](#).

### *How Jellies Move Through The Ocean*

Turns out that jellies don't so much push their bodies through the ocean, but pull themselves by creating low and high pressure areas around their bodies. Summary at [Wired](#), article at [Nature Communications](#).

### *Mantis Shrimp And Circular Polarized Light*

Research shows that not only does a specific species of mantis shrimp see circular polarized light, it may also use it to send messages. Link to article at [National Geographic](#).

### *Eyes Made Of Rock*

Chitons are small mollusks that embed hundreds of calcium-carbonate crystal eyes in their armored plates that allow them to detect predators. Link to article at [Live Science](#).

### *If You're Reading The Print Edition*

If you are reading the print edition and want to find out about the links included in this newsletter, take your favorite web browser to [www.paradisediveclub.org/newsletters](http://www.paradisediveclub.org/newsletters), or scan the QR code to the right with your smartphone and download the electronic version.

