

# The Pacific Explorer

## December 2006



Pacific Explorers Dive Club PO Box 9443, Canoga Park, CA 91309  
Web Site: [www.pacificexplorers.org](http://www.pacificexplorers.org) e-mail the board: [board@pacificexplorers.org](mailto:board@pacificexplorers.org)

Our next meeting is the second Wednesday of the month. Pre-meeting Social at 6:30 p.m. and our monthly meeting at 7:00 p.m. Denny's at the corner of Topanga Canyon and Roscoe in Canoga Park.



### *Preview of the Speaker of the month...in January*

Our 2007 club President and Treasurer, Kevin and Liz Sullivan, will be giving a presentation about the club's trip to La Paz, Mexico last October. This was a unique trip because it also included members from the Channel Islands Dive Club, which made it a sort of "dual club" event. Kevin and Liz have compiled a large set of pictures and video not only from their own collection, but also from other folks who went on the trip. There were lots of fun and memorable moments, so come share in the storytelling.



### *Preview of the Beach dive of the month...in January*

The club beach dive for January is Saturday the 6<sup>th</sup> an afternoon and night dive at Redondo Beach. This dive has become kind of a tradition and is known as the "squid dive" and hopefully they will be running. If the surf conditions cooperate this is an easy dive. The directions are as follows; that the 405 south to Hawthorne Blvd. exit right and go to Torrance Blvd. then right on Torrance and go all the way to Veterans Park at the beach. Stay on the upper circular drive for about 180 degrees, make a right turn into the parking lot and drive to upper parking lot. Bring plenty of quarters because it is metered parking.

We will meet at 3 PM and make a late afternoon dive then make the night dive about 6 PM. For those with any energy left after the dives the tradition is to walk over the El Torito for margaritas. So lets make this the first social event of the new year, see you there.



### *Preview of the Boat dive of the month...in January*

The boat dive of the month for January is Saturday January 21. We will be taking the Spectre to Anacapa and possibly Santa Cruz. It is a Sport Chalet charter and the price has not be finalized. You will be able to receive your 10% Sport Chalet discount. Please call Annette Roche at (909) 923-8207 x 340 to book your spot. We have 6 spots on hold so please book early.

Anacapa Island is actually three small islets connected by shallow sandbars. This group of islands is the closest to the mainland. An ecological reserve has been established where no game can be taken. This reserve is reminiscent of how the Channel Islands appeared years ago with large abalone, scallops and lobster caves teeming with dozens of animals. Lush kelp forests, colorful fish and clear water make Anacapa Island an excellent dive destination. Don't forget to bring your camera.

The Spectre is located in Ventura Harbor.



## *A FEW WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT*

### ***ELECTIONS***

Elections were held during the November general meeting, and I want to personally thank everyone who was elected for stepping up to help out next year. We have a good mix of folks, some who have been involved in the board for a few years, and some “new blood” too! I know that with this good group of folks, our club can provide some excellent activities and direction to keep us going strong next year.

### ***HOLIDAY PARTY***

By the time you read this, you will probably just be getting dressed to head out the door to this year’s holiday party!! We are very excited about the event, and lots of fun is certainly on tap!! This year’s holiday party is scheduled for Sunday, December 3rd at BJ’s Brewery and Restaurant on Canoga Ave. in Woodland Hills. As usual, the party will go from 12:30 to 4:00 p.m. We’ve moved to BJ’s this year because we kind of “outgrew” Two Guys from Italy last year. We want to make sure we can accommodate everyone who would like to attend.

### ***RECENT CONDITIONS***

Several folks, including Liz and myself, have been out to Anacapa in the last week or so, and conditions are absolutely incredible!! Water temperatures are still in the mid-60’s and visibility is easily 40 ft. and up. This isn’t going to last indefinitely as this week seems to indicate that the winter storms may be knocking at our door, so if you’ve been wanting to get out before hanging up the gear for the winter, there’s no better time.



### ***2006 SUMMATION***

This has been a very eventful year for the club. I want to personally thank the entire ’06 Board of Directors for their help in making our club so successful. Each and every one of the board this year contributed great ideas and helped make sure we kept our noses pointed in good directions. I have valued the opinions and guidance of each board member greatly in helping make decisions on the various issues that came up from time to time...and specifically with coordinating the La Paz trip when things got a little iffy midstream.

2006 also saw some cooperation between our club and the Channel Islands Dive club with the La Paz trip as well. We have shared some members for a while now, and it was wonderful to meet some more folks from the CID club. I sincerely hope we have the opportunity to do some coordinated events together in the coming year.

Finally, I want thank each and every one of our members. You are why this club exists, and what keeps us coming back. We have made some wonderful friends over the years in this club, and I know there will be many more in the years to come. I have never met a group of people with more positive outlooks on life, passions for the things they do, and just fun personalities to enhance our lives each and every time we get together. I hope that I can continue to contribute to making this club give you all the same experiences that I have been so fortunate to have had.

***DIVE ON...***

***Your President,  
Kevin Sullivan***

# Annual Avalon Harbor Underwater Cleanup

## February 24, 2007

### 26th Annual

The Avalon Harbor Underwater Cleanup is an annual dive event held in Avalon Harbor at Catalina Island once a year on the Saturday following President's Day. The event was started in the 1970's by the local dive community in an effort to cleanup Avalon Harbor, and this event is the only time diving is permitted there.

The event has grown over the years to become one of the most publicized and popular dive events in Southern California. Besides offering divers the opportunity to dive in Avalon Harbor, the event brings together a large number of people who share common interests - diving and Catalina. Last year we had over 550 divers who had a great time retrieving things from the harbor as well as celebrating the event. There are numerous parties around town on both Friday and Saturday nights as divers revel in the warm friendly atmosphere of Catalina Island. Several dive clubs also have made this event one of their premier social events of the year.

The proceeds of the Avalon Harbor Underwater Cleanup benefit Catalina Conservancy Divers and the Catalina Hyperbaric Chamber. Catalina Conservancy Divers is a support group of the Catalina Conservancy, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the stewardship of Catalina Island through a balance of conservation, education, and recreation. The Catalina Hyperbaric Chamber is a life support recompression chamber on Catalina that is available to serve the thousands of divers who frequent the Catalina waters.

There are three locations from which divers can enter Avalon Harbor for the dive. Divers must enter and exit the water from their assigned location. Upon exiting the water, all divers must check in with their dive master for their entry location, and get their wristband punched, in order in to pick up their T-shirt and goodie bag at Wrigley Stage (NO EXCEPTIONS)!

#### **The 3 entry locations are Green Pier, Step Beach, Casino Landing.**

Cost: \$35 per person if you register (meaning on line registration completed, or mailed entry form post marked) on or before January 31, 2007. \$45 per person February 1, 2007 or thereafter. Registration: Online registration is *strongly* encouraged.

**DEADLINES: ON LINE** -- On line registration must be completed on or before February 10, 2007.

**IN PERSON** -- In person submission of an entry form on the morning of the event in Avalon is available, but preregistration is HIGHLY encouraged. (*Arrive very early\_and report to the Wrigley Stage by 7:30 a.m. ) (Participation cannot be guaranteed for unregistered late arrivals). For questions regarding registration or the cleanup itself, please send an e-mail to: [avalonharborcleanup@gmail.com](mailto:avalonharborcleanup@gmail.com).*

Registration fee includes one T-shirt, one door prize ticket, certificates for special offers and discounts from Catalina merchants, and a coupon for discount travel to the event on Catalina Express.

Opportunity Tickets may be purchased for prize raffles.

Schedule of Events:

7:30 - 9:00 Check in at Dive Locations

9:00 Mandatory Safety Briefing at Dive Locations

9:30 - 11:00 Cleanup Dive

1:00 Award Ceremony at Wrigley Stage

[Http://cleanup.ccd.org/](http://cleanup.ccd.org/)

## November 2, 2006 Pacific Explorer's Dive Club BOD meeting minutes

Board members attending: Kevin Sullivan, Kathy White, David Carlson, Wally & Nancy Burke, Jeffrey Adler, David Bentley, and Mike Bushell.

Missing: Connie Richards, Russell Burt, and Ed Mickus.

Kevin called the meeting to order at 6:50 PM at Jeffrey Adler's home.

President- Kevin Sullivan: Kevin told everyone that the La Paz trip went very well and everyone had a great time. We discussed the impending club elections. We have people running for the following offices:

President: Kevin Sullivan

Treasurer: Liz Sullivan

Membership: MAYBE Kathy White

Beach Dives: Mike Bushell

Raffle Coordinator: OPEN

Vice President: Dave Carlson

Webmaster: MAYBE Russell Burt

Newsletter: Jeffrey Adler

Boat Dives: OPEN

Secretary OPEN

ALL of the above members would be willing to either step down for a while or talk another position if a club member wants one of these positions. It is critical to the club's health that we continue to have new people step up and give something back to the club at least one time. We will be voting at the November meeting. We will ask the membership for volunteers to join the board and participate more in directing our club. We MUST have more participation.

VP/Entertainment-David Carlson: Our speaker this month is Joe Drago, who will give a talk on diving in Sipidan. David has been working with Kathleen Hook-Griffith regarding a club trip to Indonesia next year. This will be the club trip in 2007. The date has not been established, but it will be between June and late September. The talk in January will be Kevin & Liz on the club La Paz trip.

Treasurer-Kathy White: Kathy said the books are balanced, and the club money is in good shape. Our Christmas party is on Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> from 12-4 PM at BJ's Brewery & Restaurant. We will have a choice of four different types of pizza and two pastas, plus salad. The last chance to enter the photo contest is at the November membership meeting. We also discussed what door prizes we would be giving out at the party.

Newsletter-Jeffrey Adler: Jeff said the newsletter was a little thin this month because he needs members to submit more articles and pictures.

Webmaster - Russell Burt: Not present.

Shore Dive Coordinator-Mike Bushell: Mike last month's dive went well with a good turn out. The next dive is Deer Creek Road, just south of Sycamore Canyon on PCH on the 11th. Due to the holiday's we will have only one dive, either on 12/30/06, or 1/6/07. This will be a night dive looking for squid. He will probably have a firm date by the 11/8 meeting.

Boat Dive Coordinator-David Bentley: The last boat dive of the year is November 4<sup>th</sup> on the Great Escape to Santa Barbara Island with Reef Seekers. We have at least 3 club members going that he knows of.

Raffle Coordinator-Ed Mickus: Absent

Ed has received a response from the company that made our stickers, which some members are having problems with. They will print a new batch and promise these won't have the same problems.

Secretaries-Wally & Nancy Burke: Nothing to report

Membership-Connie Richards: Absent

Kevin reminded everyone that the Monterey Aquarium has another young Great White Shark on exhibit still and it is doing well. This one is a male, about 5 feet long.

Wally told everyone that the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach just put a Bull Shark on display. It is young, about 4 feet long.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

The next board meeting for December will be held early, on November 29<sup>th</sup>, at BJ's Restaurant, so we can see the layout and plan how the Holiday Party is going to be laid out.

## **THE BIG TRIP**

WELL, FINALLY IT IS HERE. FINALLY ALL THIS FOR ONLY \$2600  
INDONESIA FOR 2007 SEPTEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup> TO THE 26<sup>TH</sup>  
DIVING AND CRITTERS LIKE YOU SEE IN THE MAGAZINES.  
9 NIGHTS AT THE RESORT, 2 NIGHTS IN SINGAPORE.  
21 DIVES INCLUDING DIVING AT POPOH, BANGKA ISLAND, AND  
LIMBEH.

BREAKFAST LUNCH AND DINNER AT THE RESORT, EXCLUDING  
SINGAPORE.

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT—I'M CHECKING.

NONE DIVER- DEDUCT \$498. WOW

HERE IS A LINK TO THE DIVE OPERATION AND CHECK OUT THE  
ACCOMMODATIONS

LINK TO THE HOTEL SANTIKA

[HTTP://WWW.THALASSA.NET/](http://www.thalassa.net/)

I AM LOOKING INTO NONE DIVE ACTIVITIES AND TOURS.

NOTE!! I AM GOING TO DO THIS WITH A MAX OF 34 PEOPLE.

SIGN UP WITH A \$200 DEPOSIT WILL HOLD YOUR SPOT. THIS WILL  
STAY OPEN

TO THE PE MEMBERS UNTIL JUST AFTER THE JANUARY MEETING,  
THEN WE WILL SEE

HOW MANY OF THE CHANNEL ISLAND DIVERS WANT TO GO.

THIS TRIP WILL SELL OUT AT THIS PRICE.

**INCLUDES ROUND TRIP ON SINGAPORE AIRLINES**

## Minutes from the October 2006 General Meeting of the Pacific Explorers Dive Club

### Raffle Prize:

Swimming Diver Floppy Hat from Aloha Dive  
Dive Cap from Aloha Dive  
Mask Strap, Dive playing cards, Air Freshener  
DAN 1<sup>st</sup> Aid Kit  
DAN Backpack  
Key Buoy – floating key holder  
Hollywood Divers Air Card  
Trident Safety Sausage

### Raffle Winners:

Diane Stevenson  
David Bentley  
Dave Leffert  
Jeffrey Adler  
Kevin Bryan  
Andre Alvaro  
Paul Kayne  
Frank Miller

New Members: Not Announced    Guests: Not Announced

### Guest Speaker:

Joe Drago gave a video presentation on diving in Sipidan, which is a small island near Borneo. They were there for 10 days, got in 18 dives. It's mostly muck diving, very similar to the club trip to Indonesia next fall. It took 54 hours to get there. Mabul Island is where the resort is, they stayed at the Sipidan Water Village. His video presentation showed stops on the way to the resort, the resort itself, and the diving. Joe's wife Rebecca also showed some still pictures she took on the same dives. The video and the stills were fantastic with beautiful and interesting creatures. Thanks for the great images!

Kevin told us that the club trip to La Paz last month was excellent, and gave some details. We were reminded that the club's Holiday Party is December 3<sup>rd</sup> at BJ's in Woodland Hills. Tomorrow is the last day to submit pictures for the Holiday Party Photo Contest.

We held the elections, and the results are as follows:

President	Kevin Sullivan
Vice President	David Carlson
Treasurer	Liz Sullivan
Beach Dive Coordinator	Mike Bushell
Boat Dive Coordinator	Jeffrey Adler
Raffle Coordinator	Craig Hoover
Secretary	Tanda Lockett
Membership	Michael Griffith
Newsletter	Ann Costigan
Webmaster	Russell Burt

Mike said he has had great turn outs for the past five shore dives or so. This month is on the 11<sup>th</sup> at Deer Creek Road. It should be a good dive. Also, he is planning to have a night squid dive near the beginning of the New Year. He'll let everyone know the date soon. No dives are planned for December.

David Bentley said we had 5 members on the boat to Santa Barbara Island last month, and everyone had a good time. No dives planned for December.

Kathy told everyone to sign up for the Holiday Party. It costs \$18, and the last day to sign up is November 25th.

David Carlson gave us some details on the Indonesia trip for next fall. The dates are September 13-26th. There will be 9 nights in Indonesia, 2 nights on the return leg in Singapore. It will cost between \$2,600-2,700 each. We have 20 spots reserved. He will open it to only Pacific Explorer's club members for the first month, and then he's going to open it up to the Channel Islands Diver Club after that if they have members that want to go. The deposit is \$200, and it will be refundable in full until April or so. There will be 3 dives a day for 7 days. No Nitrox – although he is trying to fix that. There is probably no beach diving at the resort as it is behind mangroves.



# 2006 PACIFIC EXPLORERS DIVE SCHEDULE COME ON OUT & GET WET!!!



Date	Day	Beach / Boat	Destination	Cost	Included	Boarding	Depart	Return
3-Dec	Sun	Holiday Party	BJ's Pizza 6424 Canoga Ave. Woodland Hills 818-340-1748	18.00 PP	Food & Air Please pay in advance.		12:30	4 PM
6-Jan	Sat	Squid Dive	Redondo Beach	Free			3 PM	
24-Feb	Sat	Catalina Express	Avalon Harbor Clean up					

### "THE FINE PRINT"

Dates & locations are subject to change without written notice. All active members get a 10% discount on Sport Chalet organized boat dives and Sport Chalet dive gear. Boat dives are on a first come first serve basis. Your money will hold your spot on the boat. Air fills and food are generally not included in the dive boat pricing unless specified. For boat dive reservations call Annette Roche at Sport Chalet @ (800) 348-3794. (Note: Some activities may not be through Sport Chalet Charters). For beach activities e-mail [dbbsmb@pacbell.net](mailto:dbbsmb@pacbell.net) or call Dave Bentley @ (818) 349-0699. All participants in beach diving activities will be required to complete a club release of liability/assumption of risk form.

<sup>3</sup>You can reserve you spot on the Pacific Star by calling Hollywood Divers at (323) 969-9800, (818) 990-2279

<sup>4</sup>Catalina Express (800) 481-3470 Catalina Ferries (310) 305-7250

<sup>5</sup>You can reserve your spot on the Great Escape by calling Reef Seekers (310) 652-4990

Bottom Scratcher (714) 963-4378	<a href="http://www.bottomscratcher.com/">http://www.bottomscratcher.com/</a>	Berth 55 555 Pico Ave Long Beach
CeeRay (562) 867-9738		Berth 55 555 Pico Ave Long Beach
Great Escape (866)348-3262	<a href="http://www.diveboat.com/">http://www.diveboat.com/</a>	Berth 55, Pier C, Long Beach
Island Time (866) 488-3483	<a href="http://www.expressdivers.com/">http://www.expressdivers.com/</a>	182 Marina Drive, Long Beach
Magician (310) 548-6129	<a href="http://www.magicianscuba.com/">http://www.magicianscuba.com/</a>	22nd Street Landing, San Pedro
Lois Ann (800) 201-4381	<a href="http://www.loisann.com/">http://www.loisann.com/</a>	
Pacific Star 626-716-1796	<a href="http://www.pacificstardiving.com">http://www.pacificstardiving.com</a>	181 N. Harbor Dr., Redondo Beach
Peace (866) 984-2025	<a href="http://www.peaceboat.com">http://www.peaceboat.com</a>	1559 Spinnaker Dr., Ventura
Spectre (805) 483-6612	<a href="http://calboatdiving.com/">http://calboatdiving.com/</a>	1575 Spinnaker Dr.,105B-59
Sunfish (805) 644-1499	<a href="http://www.socaldive.com">http://www.socaldive.com</a>	3600 S. Harbor Blvd. #219, Oxnard
Truth Aquatics (805) 962-1127	<a href="http://www.truthaquatics.com">http://www.truthaquatics.com</a>	301 W. Cabrillo Blvd. Santa Barbara

### DIVING LINKS

[diver.net](http://diver.net) - A compilation of diver related links and information sources.

[slonet.org/~tsulaiti/surfreport/la.html](http://slonet.org/~tsulaiti/surfreport/la.html) - Compiled ocean wave and surf information for the LA area. Also has links to similar information for No. Cal., Central Coast, and San Diego.

[nws.noaa.gov/om/marine/home.htm](http://nws.noaa.gov/om/marine/home.htm) - National Weather Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration marine weather report/forecasting.

[nawcwpns.navy.mil/%7Eweather/mugu/mesodata/analysis.html](http://nawcwpns.navy.mil/%7Eweather/mugu/mesodata/analysis.html) - So. Cal. surface wind analysis graphs.

[cawreckdivers.org](http://cawreckdivers.org) - California Wreck Divers.

[dfg.ca.gov/mrd/channel\\_islands/index.html](http://dfg.ca.gov/mrd/channel_islands/index.html) - California Dept. of Fish & Game. Information regarding fishing restrictions around Channel Islands marine preserve areas.

[wetsand.com/swellwatch/swellwatch.asp?CatId=295](http://wetsand.com/swellwatch/swellwatch.asp?CatId=295) - Compiled SoCal surf & weather information.

<http://www.healthebay.org/brc/statemap.asp> Heal the Bay Beach report card

## **PACIFIC EXPLORERS 2006 BOARD**

PRESIDENT KEVIN SULLIVAN  
VICE PRESIDENT DAVID CARLSON  
TREASURER KATHY WHITE  
CO-SECRETARIES NANCY & WALLY BURKE  
MEMBERSHIP CONNIE RICHARDS  
WEBMASTER RUSSELL BURT  
BOAT DIVE COORDINATOR DAVID BENTLEY  
BEACH DIVE COORDINATOR MIKE BUSHELL  
OPPORTUNITY TICKET COORDINATOR ED MICKUS  
NEWSLETTER JEFFREY ADLER

Web Site: [www.pacificexplorers.org](http://www.pacificexplorers.org) Board: [board@pacificexplorers.org](mailto:board@pacificexplorers.org)

Pacific Explorers Dive Club, PO Box 9443, Canoga Park, CA 91309

If you have pictures you would like to see published in the newsletter, please send them to Jeff Adler at [newsletter@pacificexplorers.org](mailto:newsletter@pacificexplorers.org). We can also post them on the club web site, so if you would like to post them there, send them to Russell Burt at [webmaster@pacificexplorers.org](mailto:webmaster@pacificexplorers.org).

### **Membership Update 100 Members**

#### **New Members**

### **MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS**

### **MEMBERSHIP HAS IT'S BENEFITS**

10% discount on non-sale Sport Chalet dive gear, 10 free Sport Chalet air fills, monthly meetings & entertainment, monthly newsletter, 2 monthly scheduled dives, group travel to exotic diving locations, terrific monthly and quarterly raffles.

Save your non winning monthly raffle tickets and exchange them for quarterly raffle tickets. Quarterly raffles are January, April, July and October.

Membership Fees: New: Single - \$25 Family - \$35 Renewal Single - \$20 Family - \$30

### **THE NEXT LEVEL**

Here is a list of Pacific Explorers that have made it to the next level in recreational or professional diving:

Nancy Burke Dry Suit

Wally Burke Dry Suit