

The Pacific Explorer

February 2005

Please join us for our regular meetings the 2nd Wednesday of each month at Denny's Restaurant at the corner of Topanga Canyon and Roscoe in Canoga Park.

Pre-meeting Social: 6:30 p.m.

Meeting: 7:00 p.m.



Los Angeles, California

P.O. Box 9443, Canoga Park, CA 91309

Website: www.pacificexplorers.org

Board: board@pacificexplorers.org

Members: members@pacificexplorers.org

WHO IS SPEAKING??



FEBRUARY MEETING:

Fred Colburn will be speaking to the club about wreck and technical diving skills. Dave and Kathy met Fred on their trip to the Philippines. He is an Instructor and manager of the Pacific Wilderness shop in San Pedro, and is also an Instructor's Instructor for PADI. He is also an AINTD Instructor and works with Chris Fox at World of Diving Travel Agency. He is a very experienced wreck diver having dove the UB-88, the Andrea Doria, and has made multiple trips to the deep wrecks off Florida.

February Meeting: Wednesday 2/09/05 at Denny's, Topanga and Roscoe in Canoga Park.

BEACH DIVE FOR THE MONTH



**Deer Creek / County Line
Saturday, Feb. 5, 9:00 p.m.**

Hopefully the rains will cut us a break this month, and get everyone back in the water. Deer Creek is at the LA / Ventura county line, but is not to be confused with "County Line" beach. There is a set of easy stairs right near the intersection of PCH and Deer Creek Road. Parking is along PCH and there are no beach facilities, so prepare accordingly.

Rumour has it that this is a pretty good site for lobster on the westerly kelp beds, and the kelp tends to be closer to shore here than at Leo Carillo or Nicholas beaches.

HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL THERE!

2005 BOARD

PRESIDENT

David Carlson

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Don Wolf

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Kathy White

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Connie Richards

NEWSLETTER

Kevin Sullivan

MEMBERSHIP

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Russell Burt

DIVE

COORDINATOR

David Bentley

RAFFLE

COORDINATOR

Jeff Adler



BOAT DIVE FOR THE MONTH:

**AVALON HARBOR CLEANUP 2005!!!!
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26**

OK, OK...we know this isn't exactly what you had in mind when we said "boat dive"...but you DO have to take a boat to get to the dive site, and it IS cheaper than any charters we can think of off the top of our heads!

Come on out and give a little back to this wonderful dive paradise we have all enjoyed so many times in the past. This event is sponsored annually by the Catalina Conservancy Divers and benefits the Catalina hyperbaric chamber, as well as the ocean itself. Everyone who participates gets a free T-shirt, one raffle ticket, and a discount on the Catalina Express.



Once again this year several of us have already made reservations to go over Friday afternoon and do a night dive at Casino Point. This was great fun last year so we decided to go for it again!! Check out the Catalina Conservancy website for more information at:

[Http://cleanup.ccd.org](http://cleanup.ccd.org) (no "www")



NEW YEAR, NEW LOOK, NEW FEATURES NEWSLETTER!!!

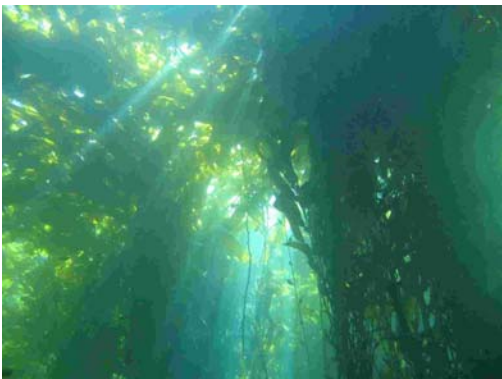


Greetings everyone! As you may have noticed, there is a slightly new look to the club newsletter this month, along with some new features. I have been working to find a way to reduce the digital size of the newsletter, but improve it's appearance. One thing I have always really wanted to do is include PICTURES on a regular basis. While this new format has some of the look of the previous newsletter, it doesn't have the fancy-shmancy borders. I figured if we could trade this off for some more member participation, that's a GOOD thing. You probably also noticed that the newsletter now has a name. The board talked about having a contest to name it at one time, but I felt that "The Pacific Explorer" was just way too obvious...so I went with it. Dave Bentley has worked very hard to put together our entire year's worth of dives, and the schedule appears on page 3...THANK YOU Dave!! While some of these activities/locations/dates may change slightly as the year progresses and opportunities come and go, at least everyone now has a chance to plan a little better than in the past. Finally, I think I do have the newsletter size down to something that most e-mail servers will accept.

Having said all that, I now have an urgent plea..... **I NEED ARTICLES DESPERATELY!!!!!!** In the last year or so, there have been very few members contributing, and it's generally the usual suspects. This isn't to say these haven't been good articles. On the contrary, I think we have done a great job of showing everyone this club's enthusiasm for the sport. But how about some variety?!?!?!? I know there's more than just 4 or 5 club members out there diving, so when you're logging your dives (which I know you all do DILIGENTLY), why not write a quick paragraph or 2 about what you saw? I don't need 20 page extrapolaries on the meaning of life, just a little color and fun. So how about it....help a brother out, eh???

Kev

AND WITHOUT FURTHER ADO...PICTURES!!!!!!



Kelp Forest – Anacapa Island
Kevin Sullivan



Spanish Shawl Nudibranch & Brittle Stars –
Anacapa Island
Kevin Sullivan



Brain Coral & Cleaner Fish –
Roatan, Honduras
Dave Carlson / Kathy White

If you have pictures you would like to see published in the newsletter, please send them to Kevin Sullivan at captainkevin@adelphia.net . We can also post them on the club website, so if you would like to post them there, send them to Russell Burt at webmaster@pacificexplorers.org .



2005 DIVE & ACTIVITY SCHEDULE



COME ON OUT & GET WET!!!

TYPE	DATE	DAY	BOAT	LOCATION	TIME	PRICE
Beach	2/5/05	Sat.	N/A	Deer Creek / County Line	9:00 a.m.	N/A
Beach	2/26/05	Sat.	Catalina Express (to Avalon Harbor)	Avalon Harbor, Catalina	7:30 a.m. check-in 9:00 dive	\$40 + Catalina Express
Boat	3/5/05	Sat.	Magician	Catalina	7:00 a.m.	\$102 ☺
Beach	3/12/05	Sat.	N/A	Malibu Road, Malibu	9:00 a.m.	N/A
Boat	4/3/05	Sun.	Great Escape	Santa Barbara(Sea Lions!!)	Board 10:00 p.m. on 4/2 Depart 1:00 a.m.	\$127 ☺
Beach	4/23/05	Sat.	N/A	Old Marineland, Palos Verdes	9:00 a.m.	N/A
Beach	5/21/05	Sat.	N/A	Shaw's Cove, Laguna Beach	9:00 a.m.	N/A
Boat	5/29/05	Sun.	Lois Ann (San Diego)	Wreck Alley (2-tank)	TBA	\$90 ☺ Tank & wts
Beach	6/4/05	Sat.	N/A	Corral Beach, Malibu	9:00 a.m.	N/A
Boat	6/26/05	Sun.	Great Escape	Catalina – Farnsworth (Advanced Only)	TBA	\$117 ☺
Beach	7/2/05	Sat.	N/A	White's Point, Palos Verdes	9:00 a.m.	N/A
TRAVEL ✈	July 7 – 16 2005	-	-	Bamboo Resort, Viti Levu, FIJI !	Contact Dave Carlson for Itinerary	\$2350 ☺ 80
Boat	7/30/05	Sat.	Great Escape	Catalina – Backside	TBA	\$115 ☺
Boat / Travel	8/6/05	Sat.	Monterey Express	Monterey Bay / Carmel	TBA	\$88 ☺ Tank & wts
Beach	8/20/05	Sat.	N/A	La Jennelle, Oxnard (Clams!)	9:00 a.m.	N/A
Boat	9/3/05	Sat.	Bottom Scratcher	Catalina	TBA	\$102 ☺
Beach	9/17/05	Sat.	N/A	Crescent Bay, Laguna Beach	9:00 a.m.	N/A
Beach	10/1/05	Sat.	N/A	Harrison's Reef, County Line	9:00 a.m.	N/A
Boat	10/29/05	Sat.	Spectre	Santa Cruz / Anacapa	TBA	\$88
Beach	11/5/05	Sat.	N/A	El Matador, Malibu	9:00 a.m.	N/A
Boat	11/26/05	Sat.	Encore	San Clemente	TBA	\$127 ☺

"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 Sport Chalet @ (800) 348-3794. (Note: Some activities may not be through Sport Chalet Charters). For beach activities e-mail 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.

☺ = Food & Air Included!!

~~SC~~ = Non- Sport Chalet Charter

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES: JANUARY 5, 2004, 7:00 PM
LOCATION: TWO GUYS OF ITALY, CHATSWORTH**

**ATTENDING: JEFF & SCOTT ADLER, DAVID BENTLEY, DAVE CARLSON, LIZ KARBUS,
KEVIN SULLIVAN, KATHY WHITE, DON WOLF**



- 1) The board officially approved the new website, www.pacificexplorers.org.
- 2) Jeff Adler will print up business cards for membership. There is a suggestion that we include a club "mission statement" on the back. Board members are to e-mail Dave C. ideas by the weekend.
- 3) Upcoming entertainment... Jan., Bamboo Beach rep.; Feb, Fred Colburn on tech/wreck diving; March, underwater archaeologist (?).
- 4) Kevin will bring up at the next general meeting that if people don't receive the newsletter attached to the e-mail, they need to let him know so he can retry.
- 5) The board discussed possibly just e-mailing a "cover letter" for the newsletter with a link to the website so members would just download it, rather than attaching to the e-mail.
- 6) A potential way to improve attendance at future meetings might be to include a coupon for 1 free raffle ticket in the newsletter.
- 7) The club will be selling the new T-shirts for \$10 each.
- 8) Dave Bentley has all the beach dives for the year lined out. He is working the boat dives and should have the list complete by the Jan. general meeting.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hi all.

After being rained out for most of January lets hope February has some dryer weekends with some flat surf. I know the surfers have had a field day at County Line. I do know some instructors that have gone out at Pt. Dume and had nothing good to say about conditions. All that new gear from the holidays will have to wait until mother nature permits. Might as well take advantage of the poor diving conditions, now might be a really good time to get that gear you said was giving you problems last year in for service. You know the drill, annual reg service and tank visuals or hydro-test.

PacificExplorers.org

Our new web site is up and we all need to thank Russell for his hard work. The new site is bigger and better with a lot of benefits that will help the club. Remember that we have new e-mail for all of the board members as well as the general membership. board@pacificexplorers.org will get you to all of the board. <position>@pacificexplorers.org will only get you to that one board member (e.g. – president@...), webmaster@pacificexplorers.org will get you to Russell, and members@pacificexplorers.org will reach the entire membership. Please be sure to limit e-mails to dive club related topics only.

EXPLORER WEAR

Keep an eye out for the new Pacific Explorer T-shirts. Everyone on the board put in a few design tips and we came up with a color T-shirt that we gave to everyone at the holiday party. A perk for coming to the Holiday party and one of the way the club gives back to the members. Don't stress, we have some left of all the sizes and you too can be stylishly dressed in Explorer Wear. Chase down Kathy at the meeting and she will set you up with the new shirts for only \$10, and we have XXL.

FIJI FIJI FIJI!!!!

This trip is getting bigger by the month. We have 16 committed with a few on the ropes. I booked 22 so we can still get you in if you're one of the ones on the rope. We will spend 7 fabulous nights and 8 days under the tropical sun on the island of Viti Levu Fiji. We are going to go to Bamboo Beach Resort. <http://www.bamboobeachfiji.com/> We will depart on Thursday night July 7th and return Saturday night July 16th. The cost will be \$2350 which includes R/T airfare from LAX, 7 night's accommodations, 5 days of two-tank boat diving (including three days to the Vatu-I-Ra Channel), unlimited beach diving, 3 gourmet meals per day, R/T airport transfers, R/T boat transfers to the resort, the Fiji government tax and all airport fees and taxes. We will get some discount depending on how many go. I have 22 spots reserved. Should be another great time!

Your fearless leader and President, David Carlson
president@pacificexplorers.org



PO Box 9443
Canoga Park, CA
91309



Pacific Explorers Dive Club, Inc.
www.pacificexplorers.org

Dive Travel

Upcoming Dive Trips:

2005 Trip.... FIJI !!
July 7 - 16.



DIVING LINKS:

www.diver.net - A compilation of diver related links and information sources.

www.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.

www.nws.noaa.gov/om/marine/home.htm - National Weather Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration marine weather report/forecasting.

www.nawcwpns.navy.mil/%7Eweather/mugu/mesodata/analysis.html - So. Cal. surface wind analysis graphs.

www.cawreckdivers.org - California Wreck Divers.

www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/channel_islands/index.html - California Dept. of Fish & Game. Information regarding fishing restrictions around Channel Islands marine preserve areas.

www.wetsand.com/swellwatch/swellwatch.asp?CatId=295 - Compiled SoCal surf & weather information.