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# The Pacific Explorer

## February 2007



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

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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.

### *Speaker of the month...*



## Sinking of the Yukon

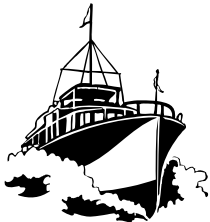
The entertainment for our February meeting will be a DVD recounting the sinking of the Yukon. The Yukon now sits on the ocean bottom in 100 feet of water just a few miles out of Mission Bay, San Diego. This DVD describes what was done to prepare it for sinking and even the actually sinking of the ship. What more could you ask for?

### *Beach dive of the month...*

#### [Feb. 17 - Corral Beach](#)



The February beach dive scheduled for the 10th at 9 AM at Malibu Road has been changed because of the fire that destroyed so many homes there. I am sure they have enough on their hands without dealing with a bunch of divers and their vehicles on the road. The February beach dive will now be Saturday the 17th at Corral Beach at 9 AM. Directions are as follows: take Las Virgenes Road (Malibu Canyon) to PCH and make a right. Take PCH to just before the 76 station and make a U-turn and park right there on PCH. This is an easy dive with a short hike. After the dive for those so inclined the Malibu Fish Company is right up the road, it's a great place for lunch. Let's hope the weather and surf conditions cooperate. See you there.



### *Boat dive of the month...*

Catalina Clean-up See info on page 3.



## **A FEW WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT**

### **RECENT EVENTS**

Well, 2007 is getting off to a similar start as last year, with the Redondo Beach squid dive getting canceled due to conditions. Mike e-mailed everyone on Friday night that big swells were expected and visibility was down. Something tells me we just aren't meant to be diving that first week in January. As I write this, hopefully some of you are getting ready to head out to Anacapa on the Spectre tomorrow (Sunday 1/21). We were at the marina today taking care of some business with our boat, and the conditions were wonderful (though a bit chilly). The National Weather Service is predicting similar conditions for tomorrow, so I am sure those headed out will have a great day.

Earlier today, we met Wally and Nancy Burke at a movie screening at Cal. Tech. in Pasadena. The movie was titled "The Blue Realm – Shark Business", and it was about what has now become a very large business sector in providing SCUBA diving experiences with sharks. It showed operations ranging from great white shark diving in South Africa, to grey reef shark feeding dives in the Bahamas, and dives with sixgill sharks in the Pacific northwest. Some of the major topics of the film were the question of whether this type of diving changes the behavior of sharks such that they would be more dangerous to humans (the answer was generally no), how the experiences themselves help promote shark conservation, and how the sharks are more valuable as a tourist resource rather than a food source. This film was very well done and did an excellent job addressing real technical issues related to shark diving operations as well as the subject of shark education and conservation. One other thing that was very cool about the screening is that there was a discussion with a Cal. Tech. zoologist following the film. There were lots of families with children in attendance, and the kids were obviously fascinated and excited about learning more about sharks. It was really cool to hear them interacting with the presenter and taking an active interest in shark conservation. If you get the chance to see this film, we recommend that you do. They did not say where the film was destined to turn up, but Discovery channel during shark week is probably a good bet. The film was a Sport Diver Television production.

### **NEWSLETTER**

As you all know, Jeff Adler has been doing an exceptional job with the club newsletter. However, article submissions from membership have been dropping off consistently for the last few months. The newsletter is literally what YOU make of it. Jeff does a great job filling in with bits of news and things, but really it is articles and pictures from the membership at large that can make it just that much more special. From having done the newsletter myself in the past I know how difficult it can be keeping the quality of an issue up when there isn't much to work with. I would like all members to PLEASE consider contributing articles and pictures to be included in the newsletter. An article really doesn't have to be longer than a paragraph...but believe me, once you start recalling everything you experienced on any given day, you'll be surprised at how quickly you'll fill up a page!! Remember also that everyone who contributes to the newsletter is eligible for a participation award (a \$45 Sport Chalet gift certificate) at the next quarterly meeting.

### **MAINTENANCE**

OK, as much as we promote all our club diving events and the advantages of the local diving year-round in Southern California, I'm also realistic about life in general. I know that the winter cold tends to keep folks out of the water more, so I highly recommend that you use this time to take care of that maintenance on your equipment that needs to be done regularly. Take your tank in for it's annual visual inspection, even if it's a few months early. If you know you don't regularly dive during the winter, why not get the tank inspection due date in line with when you probably won't be in the water? It's really a drag realizing that your tank just went out of date when you're getting ready to head out on a charter boat, and then have to go rent a tank because you've gotta get yours tumbled. Another item that you should be considering is maintenance on your regulator. Keeping your regulator in good working condition is the absolute most important piece of equipment maintenance you should be doing. So...if you've got some down time during the chilly months, break out the gear and get it all tuned up and ready for that first springtime plunge!

### **A QUICK REMINDER...**

...to all you lobster grabbers and other game hunters. Your 2006 licenses expired at midnight on December 31<sup>st</sup>. So if you haven't gotten a 2007 license, be sure to do so before you head out to chase down dinner!

*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/)

## 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

## MAUI OCEAN CENTER By Jeffrey Adler

My first dive of the year was at the Maui Ocean Center. That's right the Maui Aquarium. This was the best dive I have ever done. Diving in a 750,000 gallon tank with over hammerhead sharks, white tip, black tips, gray and a tiger, sting rays, puffer fish and a very friendly eagle ray that would eat clams right out of your hand. Conditions were perfect. We start with a behind the scenes tour of the aquarium and science lab, proceed to the dive briefing and finally the dive itself. 35-45 minutes of heaven. With a crushed coral and rock bottom there was no silt. I was in the tank with Steve Benavides, an author for California Diving News. It was a perfect morning and my wife who does not dive was able to share it with me from the other side of the glass. After our dive we had the rest of the day at the aquarium. If on Maui, do not miss this dive.

[http://www.mauiocencenter.com/VIP\\_Tours.html#shark](http://www.mauiocencenter.com/VIP_Tours.html#shark)



## 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

## **Minutes from the Pacific Explorer's Dive Club Board of Directors Meeting January 3, 2007**

Members present: David Carlson, Liz Sullivan, Michael Griffith, Russell Burt, David Bentley, Jeffrey Adler, Craig Hoover, Mike Bushell and Tanda Lockett.. Members missing: Kevin Sullivan. Guests: Kathy White and Lynn Bushell

David Carlson called the meeting to order at 7:00 at Denny's in Canoga Park.

Vice President-David Carlson: David said that 18 people had reserved a spot on the trip to Indonesia. A maximum of 34 people will be able to take part in the group trip. He will promote the trip to Indonesia at the next Channel Island's dive club meeting. David also mentioned that he is working on finding presenters for the entertainment at the club meetings. One presenter he would like to contact is Scott Cassell; who would speak about Humboldt squid (jumbo squid). David would like to hear from any club members if they know of, or have heard of, or have read an article written by someone he could contact to be a speaker at our club meetings.

Treasurer-Kathy White: The club is financially sound. The opportunity awards are a great help for raising funds for the club. She also wanted to know if she should look into having dive club tee shirts and sweat shirts ordered. The BOD decided that they would like to have Kathy check into the ordering and pricing of the tee shirts and sweat shirts.

Membership-Michael Griffith: Michael said that he is working on getting the membership renewals up-to-date. He is going to coordinate with Liz Sullivan on the printing of name tags for members.

Beach Dive Coordinator-Mike Bushell: Mike mentioned that the squid dive was scheduled for Saturday, January 6, 2007. He also mentioned that he was thinking of having the February beach dive occur at Malibu Road, and having the March dive at Escondido or Corral. He was wondering about the beach access to Old Marineland.

Opportunity Awards Coordinator-Craig Hoover: He will meet with Kathy White at Sports Chalet to set up the coordination for obtaining the awards.

Webmaster-Russell Burt: The website is up and running. He will post dives as soon as he hears about the dives. He will archive last year's newsletters and update the 2007 board members.

Treasurer-Liz Sullivan: Liz has a stack of business cards if anyone is interested in getting some. The club's credit card and debt card need to be changed to show her name.

Dive Boat Coordinator-David Bentley: There will be a boat dive on January 21 on the Spectre. The club boat dive for February will be the Harbor Clean-up at Catalina. Possible boat dives for this year are: Farnsworth Banks, San Clemente, Santa Barbara Island, opening night for lobster season, Outer Islands, Oil Rigs, Catalina, Begg Rock and San Nicholas (2 day trip) and Coronado's Islands.

Newsletter-Jeffrey Adler: He hasn't been receiving articles from members for the newsletter. Please send him your articles and photos for the newsletter. He would like to receive info to put in the newsletter by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month, so that he can get it to print on time.

It was also mentioned during the meeting that next year there might be an additional category in the annual photo contest called "Marine mammals".

Meeting adjourned at 8:00.

## Minutes from the Pacific Explorer's Dive Club General Meeting January 10, 2007

Kevin Sullivan called the meeting to order at 7:10 at Denny's Restaurant in Canoga Park.

President- Kevin Sullivan: Kevin announced that the squid dive had been canceled due to high surf and low visibility at Redondo Beach. February 24 is the annual Avalon harbor clean-up. Diving will occur from 9:00-11:00. Following the dive there will be a huge opportunity awards ceremony. In the past, a few of the items that have been given away are wet suits and regulators. Wrecks to Reefs Project will be sinking a submarine off the California coastline.

Treasurers-Liz Sullivan and Kathy White: We are currently collecting deposits for the dive trip to Indonesia. We are selling dive club glasses for \$4.00.

Boat Dive Coordinator-David Bentley: He would like to know if divers are interested in diving at Begg Rock. He is considering planning a dive to San Diego to do The Yukon. The February boat dive is the Avalon harbor clean-up. There are 6 spots available on the Spectre, going out to Anacapa on January 21.

Beach Dive Coordinator-Mike Bushell: Unfortunately the squid dive had to be canceled. The next beach dive will be held at Corral Beach on February 17.

Membership-Michael Griffith: Michael announced that we have a new member, Mike Hommes. He also said that we had a visitor, Russ Martin, from the Channel Islands Dive Club.

Vice President-David Carlson: February's entertainment might be a DVD on the sinking of The Yukon. He is possibly expecting a low turnout due to our meeting occurring on Valentine's Day. David introduced Kevin and Liz Sullivan as the presenter's for the evening's entertainment. Kevin and Liz shared their photos, and other diver's photos, from the club's dive trip to La Paz, Mexico. Great photos and narrative by Kevin and Liz and the other divers!

Opportunity Awards Coordinator-Craig Hoover: Craig said that there was a \$45.00 gift certificate to be drawn for someone who had participated in a club dive or submitted an article in the club's newsletter. He also displayed the items available for the opportunity awards.

The Opportunity Awards and recipients were as follows:

- Stanley Thermos-Russ Martin
- Diving 2007 calendar-David Bentley
- Diving Offshore California book-Wally Burke
- Titanium knife-Corey Bushell
- Mini-size lantern-Kevin Sullivan
- Underwater magnetic slate-Paul Kayne
- Sherwood snorkel-Mike Bushell
- Ankle weights-David Leffert
- Larry the Lobster-Craig Hoover

The \$45.00 Gift Certificate will go to Ana Schultz.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30.



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



Date	Day	Beach / Boat	Destination	Cost	Included	Boarding	Depart	Return
10-Feb	Sat	Malibu Road	24320 PCH	Free			9 AM	
24-Feb	Sat	Catalina Express	Avalon Harbor Clean up	35+	Transportation	See article page 3		
13-26	Sept		Indonesia	2,600	Air, lodging 21 dives, most meals			

**“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.

**DIVERS BEWARE** By Jeffrey Adler

Oceanmaster customer service stinks. After weeks of trying to have my mask repaired and then having Aloha Dive try, I gave up, told them to throw it out. I bought a new fog free mask and I will never buy another piece of equipment from Oceanmaster.

**Commercial Abalone fishing is Southern California? Not if we can help it.  
On a recent dive trip I met up with Steve Benavides who wrote an article for  
California Diving News. Please follow the link.**

<http://www.cadivingnews.com/departments/editorials/abalonethreat.html>

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	<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">www.truthaquatics.com</a>	301 W. Cabrillo Blvd. Santa Barbara

## **PACIFIC EXPLORERS 2007 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

PRESIDENT KEVIN SULLIVAN

VICE PRESIDENT DAVID CARLSON

TREASURER LIZ SULLIVAN

SECRETARY TANDA LOCKETT

MEMBERSHIP MICHAEL GRIFFITH

WEBMASTER RUSSELL BURT

BOAT DIVE COORDINATOR DAVID BENTLEY

BEACH DIVE COORDINATOR MIKE BUSHELL

OPPORTUNITY TICKET COORDINATOR CRAIG HOOVER

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**

Mike Hommes

### **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 opportunity tickets.

Save your non winning monthly opportunity tickets and exchange them for quarterly opportunity tickets. Quarterly drawings 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:

Jeffrey Adler Drift

Jeffrey Adler Master Scuba Diver