
The Pacific Explorer

July 2006



Pacific Explorers Dive Club PO Box 9443, Canoga Park, CA 91309
Web Site: www.pacificexplorers.org Board: board@pacificexplorers.org

Our next meeting is Wednesday June 12th. 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.

The speaker for July is Ed Mickus to share his discoveries in the Galapagos Islands.



Ed traveled there last month for 10 days to live on a scuba liveaboard vessel called the Lammer Law. The scuba diving showcased various large ocean fish such as sharks, rays and mammals such as sea lions and marine iguana's. The various land excursions included tortoises, iguanas, and birds which all revealed amazing laws of nature while being seemingly unafraid of humans. Many photographs were taken and shall be shared.

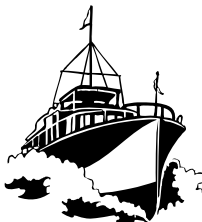
BEACH DIVE OF THE MONTH JULY 15



The July beach dive will be the annual Pacific Explorers beach dive and picnic. Yes, we are again going to try Latigo Shores. Ed Mickus has again graciously volunteered his beach for this dive and BBQ. By the time we hit the water the tide should be high enough to make this an easy entry and exit and there is virtually no hiking involved. Directions are as follows; take PCH to just west of Corral Beach, near the 76 gas station, to Latigo Shore Drive. It is on the beach side of PCH. Follow Latigo Shore Drive to the fork in the road and go left. At the bottom of the hill there is temporary parking to unload gear. Then take car back up to fork turn left, go through guard gate, if the guard gate is unmanned call Ed on the intercom system (he is listed on the gate directory) so he can buzz

you in, then go all the way back to visitor parking. You can also park on Latigo Shore Drive even though it says "NO PARKING". Ed's phone number is 310-457-7371 in case you get lost. Remember this is a "potluck" and Kathy White will be passing around a sign-up sheet at the meeting prior to the dive. These events are always a lot of fun so see you there.

BOAT DIVE OF THE MONTH JULY 29



The club boat dive for July is on Saturday the 29th. This month we will be having a family day at Casino Point in Avalon on Catalina Island. We will meet up at the Casino Point Dive Park at 10:00 am. The fill station there is open until 4:00 pm and charges \$5 per fill (air only) or you can rent tanks there if you like. There is a wide variety of restaurants and plenty of shopping for those so inclined. This should make for a nice day of diving eating and just hanging out together in a wonderful place with a colorful history. The dive park is home to several wrecks, lush kelp, and varied underwater topography. There are stairs leading into the water and conditions are usually wonderful. This place is a lot of fun for beginners and old salts alike.

There are two ferries serving Avalon this time of year. Catalina Express (800-481-3470) out of Long Beach or San Pedro for \$54 round trip and Catalina Ferries (310-305-7250) out of Marina Del Ray for \$67 round trip. Both have boats departing at 8:30 on Saturday. If we all take the 8:30 boats I can set it up for a baggage handler to haul our gear from the dock to the park. When we are done (say 4:30pm) they will pick up our gear and store it at the dock for us while we eat and shop. If we choose to do this as a group, the baggage service is only \$7 per person so let me know ahead of time if you want me to set this up. Make your reservations with the ferry as soon as possible since these boats fill up quickly during the summer months (especially Catalina Express).



A FEW WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT

RECENT EVENTS

All reports from the 2006 SCUBA show were enthusiastic this year. Several board members collected information to help us begin planning next year's club travel destination. We have quite a few options to review, and we're sure we'll come up with something exciting! Liz and I opted for a weekend out at the marina instead of the show this year, even though the weather kept us from heading to the islands. It was a fruitful weekend anyway, as there is ALWAYS work on the boat which needs attention.

Big surf rolled in ruining Mike Bushell's plans for the monthly club beach dive at Pt. Dume. We're worried that Mike is starting to take this all personally!! No worries Mike, the 2nd half of the year has GOT to be better! And then there was a group of us who failed to heed Mother Nature's warning from that weekend, and dove Pt. Dume the following weekend. Well, we found out just exactly how challenging this site can be. I was literally pulling myself against the current along the bottom with a clam shell in each hand like I was scaling the nearby cliffs. Getting back to the beach was, well, an adventure. Suffice it to say we were left with a renewed respect for the ability of the ocean to make us feel really, really puny.

LA PAZ!!!!

Unfortunately the month of June brought us to a difficult decision with this trip. Problems with the original air carrier forced us to secure the air travel portion of the trip with a different carrier, which in turn drove the cost of the trip up. The higher trip cost did result in several participants deciding to cancel on the trip. But as the saying goes there was definitely a silver lining to be found. At the same time this was all going on, we found out that the Channel Islands Divers club in Oxnard was planning a trip to La Paz as well, but was starting a bit late in the season to be able to secure enough spots at the resort. So, we are teaming up with the CI Divers for a combined club event! We will be staying 7 nights at the Club Cantamar resort in La Paz with 5 days of 2 or 3 tank dives, depending on the distance of dive locations from the resort. The revised price for the trip including resort, diving, air fare, meals on dive days, and taxes/surcharges/fees will be \$1470 (not counting any applicable discounts) per person, double occupancy. Diver single occupancy \$1705 and non-diver, double occupancy \$1213.



UPCOMING...

The month of July has some wonderful opportunities for everyone to get together and really experience the club and the sport we love together. The summer picnic is at Ed Mickus' beach front home. There are a BUNCH of people signed up for the pot luck picnic, and this is a beach rarely touched by divers due to its private nature. This promises to be a wonderful time. Many, MANY thanks to Ed for hosting this event!!!

Dave Bentley has planned a really nice family day for club members out at Catalina for a day of diving at the Casino Point dive park. The whole family can come participate and enjoy the relaxing ambiance of Avalon while we dive our tail ends off all day! One important note though...Bob Casselman has been checking into Catalina Express reservations, and the boats are filling up quickly, especially the ones coming back in the evening. We STRONGLY urge you to make reservations now to avoid getting skunked at the last minute. We will be meeting at the Casino around 9:30 a.m., but you can really show up any time during the day, as dive times and surface intervals will surely have different folks in and out of the water at different times. Liz and I will be there, and I'm looking forward to diving some areas of the park I've yet to see.

DIVE ON...

**Your President,
Kevin Sullivan**

Oil Rig Dive 5/13 By Liz Sullivan

Kevin and I woke up at "O'dark thirty" as Kevin would say and dragged ourselves to the car to drive down to the Sea Bass now located at the ever so smelly dock near the LA Sportsfishing store in San Pedro. Waking up that early and making oneself smell the funk near the restaurant trash bins at the dock is not like going to a day spa. I can only hope for a good day of diving with this sort of self inflicted torture. It did turn out to be a great day.

There were only ten people boarding the Sea Bass that day, and to my happy surprise, half of these were Pacific Explorers. Dave Bentley, Jamie Nixon, Paul Janke, Kevin and I were all aboard that day. The ride out to the rigs was about forty minutes and the first stop was Eureka, nine miles offshore from Long Beach and the deepest of the three. Eureka sits in about 700 feet of water and this seems to be the rig with the better visibility.

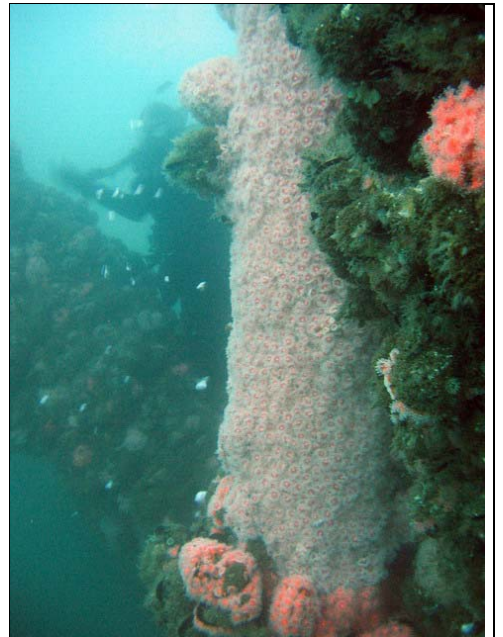


After jumping off the back of the boat, the group of divers congregated in the center of the rig to witness the ice breaker. Literally. The large male sea lion of the harem that lounges on this rig made a giant stride into the water. We all yelled "cannon ball" as he fell in with a tall splash. I think he "confronted" Paul and his dive buddy underwater and blew some bubbles in their faces. I saw the big dude only once underwater, swimming very closely with his girl of the day. Once past the wildlife, we sunk down to about 125 feet and stared at the living creatures on the structure and cross beams. On this day, the visibility really opened up past about 60 feet and the life that grows on these rigs is something to see - it's just beautiful. The way the anemones grow on the scallops and the structure is absolutely beautiful because of all the colors and textures. Eureka was a relatively short dive being that it was the deepest.

After getting back on board, we waited (and waited and waited) for the remaining tech diver to do his deco stops and finally come back to the boat. The next stop was nearby Elly and Ellen. These two rigs sit in 200-300 feet of water are connected by a walkway. Elly processes oil produced from Ellen and Eureka. I forget the order we dove Ellen and Elly in, however, the visibility was a little less and as the day progressed the current became stronger. The diving was still a blast, except for the fact that I got a migraine on my last dive. Migraine plus current plus drysuit equals not a fun swim back to the boat.

After the third dive, we were all pretty tired and eagerly climbed back on the boat for the drive back to shore. I spent the ride back sitting away from the engines at the back of the boat so as not to make my headache worse.

All in all the crew was excellent, they fed us well and the trip was worth waking up early for. Getting back to the dock, the picnic tables outside the seafood restaurants were packed with people eating huge plates of battered fish. It was kind of weird to see so many people eating as I remembered what my senses brought me that morning. Despite this, a snack stop before going home sounded good to me. Acapulco's was right down the street.



MEET THE SUNFISH



The Sunfish is Ventura County's newest 53' USCG Certified dive boat departing from the Channel Islands Harbor for trips to Anacapa and Santa Cruz islands. The boat is open for party or charter.

Hot Showers, Self Service Galley, Food and Air Fills included.

(805) 644-1499

<http://www.socaldive.com>

**WIN A CERTIFICATE FOR A BUY ONE SPOT GET ONE SPOT FREE
AT OUR JULY QUARTERLY MEETING**

**CELEBRATE THE 4TH AT THE LONG BEACH AQUARIUM
4TH OF JULY BBQ AND FIREWORKS**

In celebration of Independence Day, enjoy a special BBQ dinner (for an additional cost) that includes home-style entrees and decadent desserts either on our Harbor Terrace or in a special reserved picnic area on the front lawn. The Aquarium will be open until 10:00 p.m. The City of Long Beach will be hosting fireworks, which can be easily seen from the Aquarium's Harbor Terrace or front lawn.

WHEN: Tuesday, July 4, 6:00-10:00 p.m.

COST: Aquarium entry free to Aquarium members; 20% off their guests.

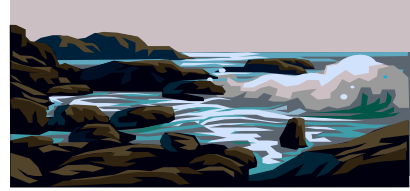
BBQ picnic is an additional cost. Member price: \$13.50 for members and \$7.50 for member children. Advance reservations are recommended. RSVP: (562) 437-FISH (3474)

Minutes from the June 14, 2006 General Meeting of the Pacific Explorers Dive Club

Raffle Prize:

Hollywood Divers Mesh Bag
Hollywood Divers Cap
Hollywood Divers Air & Nitrox Cards
Hollywood Divers Mask Strap
Dive Rite Cap
Ikelite PC Dive Light
PADI Bubblemaker Kit
2 tickets to the SCUBA Show
Dive Pin

Stan Richards
Haawk Costiga
Art Vroman
Clive Smith
Joe Razo
Jeff Adler
Tony Pada
Paul Borchard
Kathy White



Guest Speaker:

Tom Ford of the Santa Monica Bay Keepers presented a fascinating and educational talk on Kelp Reforestation. He is always looking for volunteers to help with this important project. You must have your Rescue Certification as a minimum to volunteer. You can contact Tom via email at captainkelp@smbaykeeper.org or get more information at this website: <http://www.smbaykeeper.org>.

Kevin told us of his & Liz's trip to Puget Sound - cold, poor vis, but BIG critters & fish.

He also discussed the problem with the airline for our La Paz trip and asked anyone with more questions or concerns to contact him.

David Bentley reported that the Sea Bass is a great boat with a wonderful crew and good food. He'll definitely do them again.

He also reminded everyone that this months' trip is on the Vision to the Outer Islands this Saturday.

Mike reported that the last dive was canceled again due to bad conditions. Next month's beach dive is at Latigo Shores with a BBQ. We have over 25 signed up so far. If you plan to go contact Kathy White to coordinate food for the potluck BBQ.

Mike said August's beach dive is Shaw's Cove in Laguna Beach, and he has just added County Line as the September 16th beach dive.

SCUBAPRO RECALL

Scubapro is recalling some of their X650 regulators due to a defect that could result in full regulator failure at depth. Please contact Scubapro if you have an X650 and are not sure of its status with respect to the recall.

SUUNTO RECALL

Suunto Oy has identified a software bug in the D9 and D6 instruments. The products affected are:

D9 serial numbers 62102582 and below

D6 serial numbers 62103693 and below

If any of you have purchased either a D6 or D9 that fall under the serial numbers on the attachment please contact Lucia at Aqua Lung (760-597-5072) to get an RM number to get it upgraded.

Minutes from the Board of Directors June 7, 2006 Pacific Explorer's Dive Club

Board members attending: Kevin Sullivan, Kathy White, David Carlson, Wally & Nancy Burke, Jeffrey Adler, Connie Richards, David Bentley, Mike Bushell, Russell Burt and Ed Mickus.

Missing: None

Guests: Liz Sullivan.

Kevin called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM at Country Harvest Restaurant in Newbury Park.

President—Kevin Sullivan: Kevin announced that we have a problem with the airline for the La Paz trip in October. We are booked on Aero California and their planes have been grounded for several months now and it is not clear if or when they will fly again. To ensure that we can go we need to reserve air travel elsewhere. The best deal we can find is to fly American Airlines to Cabo San Lucas and take a bus 2-1/2 hours to La Paz. This means an increase in the trip flight of \$350 per person. We must have a \$40 deposit on American Airlines by June 21st. We will cancel our reservations with Aero California and apply the money towards the American Airlines reservation. If people want to cancel because of the changes they must do so by June 30th, or a penalty will apply. 10 divers from Channel Islands Divers want to go on the trip. If we get cancellations we can try to fill the spots with them.

Raffle Coordinator-Ed Mickus: Ed said the raffle is going well. He likes the idea of one large item and several smaller items. We had a lot of interest in the last raffle due to the DAN backpack being offered.

Treasurer-Kathy White: Kathy said everything is going well.

VP/Entertainment-David Carlson: Our talk this month will be on Kelp Reforestation. Ed Mickus will give a presentation on his Galapagos trip in July. David Golden whom is a Marine Biologist will give an entertaining talk in August.

Newsletter-Jeffrey Adler: Jeff told the board that his printer capable of double sided printing has died for good. Due to this we need to have someone do the printing. The best price he found was through Staples and \$1.14 per issue for 100 copies. We are putting our newsletter in three Sports Chalets – Porter Ranch, West Hills, and Thousand Oaks, two Aloha Dive shops, and Hollywood Divers. He will try to reduce the size of the newsletter a little to lower the cost of printing.

Shore Dive Coordinator-Mike Bushell: Mike said this weekend's dive is at Pt. Dume. However, the swells are bad now, and even if they go down by Friday as scheduled the vis will be bad due to the bottom stirred up. He may cancel the dive. He will send out an email Thursday night letting everyone know. He may replace the event with the "Rips, Reefs and Rocks" program going on this weekend (and others throughout the summer & fall) at Deer Creek Rd. Sat. @ 7:45 AM.

Boat Dive Coordinator-David Bentley: We're on the Vision out of Santa Barbara to the outer islands on June 17th. On July 29th we're doing family day at Catalina. In August we're going on the Lois Ann to dive the Yukon, Ruby E, and kelp beds.

Secretaries-Wally & Nancy Burke: Nothing to report.

Webmaster-Burt Russell: Fixed a few problems with the website. May make some cosmetic changes to the site to make it look fresh.

Membership-Connie Richards: One new member and a couple of renewals. Is making badges for the board members so guests and new members can identify them. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Kevin (and Liz) will host the next BOD meeting in July.

Diving Southern California's The Channel Islands

Abundant, colorful marine life, a large fleet of professional dive-charter boats and year-round temperate weather make Southern California one of the world's great diving destinations. Southern California's coastline runs from Point Conception to the border of Mexico. Across the Santa Barbara Channel, a chain of four islands (Anacapa, Santa Cruz, Santa Rosa and San Miguel) faces the mainland coast from Ventura to Point Conception. These are the North Channel Islands. Four more islands (Santa Catalina, Santa Barbara, San Nicolas and San Clemente) form the South Channel Islands, scattered from 25 to 65 miles south and southwest of Santa Monica Bay.

Although diving conditions are more challenging than typical tropical conditions, correctly equipped and prepared divers at every level of skill and experience can enjoy a wide variety of world-class sites in Southern California waters. On sheltered, shallow to medium-depth reefs, divers may safely explore a unique and beautiful environment, the giant kelp forest. While weaving through the kelp stands, divers may encounter 50 species of fish and invertebrates in a matter of minutes. Lobsters and moray eels peek out from their hiding places beneath sponge-covered rocks. White sea bass doze beneath the kelp canopy. Huge, majestic black sea bass magically appear in the open water outside a kelpy reef. While cruising through the kelp, divers are often accompanied by curious harbor seals or playful sea lions.

Few diving experiences compare to the thrill of descending onto a "seamount." As you approach the face of a wall below the surface you'll see that the rock is alive – every square inch of surface area is covered with scallops, anemones, sea stars, sponges, feather duster worms and tunicates. Bizarre and colorful tiny fish, nudibranchs and octopus hide in the nooks and crannies while bright red rockfish hover over deep structures. On moonlit nights squid ascend from ancient marine trenches to spawn and lay their tubular eggs in sandy coves. On calm afternoons blue sharks fin lazily at the surface in mid-channel. Blue and humpback whales come to the Santa Barbara Channel to feed on krill in summer. Gray whales move through in winter on their way to calve and mate off Baja, California. Huge pods of porpoises remain in Southern California waters year-round, hunting baitfish and mackerel.

If you don't scuba dive Southern California, see what you're missing? What are you waiting for?! Stop by your local scuba diving center today and begin the adventure of your lifetime!

Submitted by: Chris Russello, Owner, Aloha Dive in Northridge, Simi Valley and Woodland Hills. Russello has been a certified SCUBA diver since 1972. He holds SSI's highest instructor ratings as well as a 100 ton Captain's license. He and his professionally trained staff are ready and able to serve all your recreational SCUBA diving needs. To ask Chris a question, contact him at aloha@dive-aloha.com or call 818-700-8134 or write him at Aloha Dive, 9250-16 Reseda Blvd., Northridge, CA, 91324. Next time... "Scuba Diving Certification and Beyond."

Aloha Dive Schedule			
<i>Date</i>	<i>Destination & Departure Time</i>	<i>Boat</i>	<i>Price</i>
1-Jul	Anacapa / Sanata Cruz	Great White	\$145
2-Jul	Annual Beach BBQ, Leo Carillo		-

Join Aloha Dive for an Adventure on the Island of Grenada December 26, 2006 January 3, 2007

Encounter seahorses, arrow shrimp, rays lobster, moray eels, turtles, sharks and octopus! Enjoy the ride on a drift dive or explore the diverse portfolio of shipwrecks including "The Titanic of the Caribbean" The Bianca C!

The trip includes round trip air, airport transfers in Geneada, Hotel & Airline Taxes, 7 nights at True Blue Bay Resort, 5 days of diving with Aquanauts, Tanks, Weights, Belts, 5 Breakfast, Lunches and Dinners and Complimentary Resort Activities. All this for only \$2899.00 per person/double occupancy.

For additional information stop by the Reseda Shop and see the color photos of this incredible region, or call (818) 700-8134.

San Miguel Island - June 17 By Russell Burt

Sometimes dive trips are really a pain in the butt-getting all your gear together, making sure the dogs are cared for, driving to wherever the boat is-and you wonder why you're doing this, especially if the dive turns out to be a dud. Then again, sometimes it's all worthwhile and you realize it's just the best thing in the world.

This was one of those times!

Our club trip on the Vision had several firsts for me: first time diving on the Truth Aquatics boats, first time out of Santa Barbara, and first time diving with some of the club members. Chuck Heinold and Mark [last name?] joined me and Dave Bentley for some awesome, albeit cold, diving off San Miguel Island. I have to say this is some of the best diving I've ever experienced as far as big rock fish are concerned.

It all started Friday night after a long, grueling day at work. With all the preparations I had to make, I didn't leave my house until 9:30pm. 90 minutes later, I was in Santa Barbara finding my way around the harbor in search of the Vision. The directions on the boat's web site were perfect and I had no problem finding it.

The first thing I noticed about the boat was its size. I think it's the largest dive boat I've ever been on! It has ample deck space, a huge galley, bunks underneath (even the singles could probably hold two people as long as they were friendly with each other), and all of it immaculately clean. Since there were only 24 divers on board, I had no problem finding room for my gear and an empty bunk. (Even with 40 divers, there would still be plenty of room!!) I met Mark as I was on my way to bed, and we said a brief hello before retiring.

The boat left dock at 4am, and although I usually wake up as soon as a boat's engines roar, I had no problem staying asleep this night. A gentle hum was all I heard. Eventually, I did wake up around 6 and, going topside, found a few stalwart early-risers poking about. I met the galley gal-Jill-who kept us happy and fed the entire day. She stoked the fire under the coffee pot, and with a fresh cup I was soon wide awake.

The deckhand-Rob-was outside topping off tanks (how many boats do you know that do that without having to be asked?), and I chatted with him for a while. Really nice guy! Eventually, our club contingent all came out of their bunks, and we spent some time getting more familiar with each other. As we still had a couple of hours before getting to the island, we allowed ourselves to slowly wake up and enjoy the morning.

Our first site, a large kelp bed several hundred yards off shore, was called [dive site name]. Just as we were motoring up to it, Rob started the boat briefing, which involved the typical blurbs that we all know. I was impressed by the fact that he covered all the necessary material in a timely fashion; just as he was finishing and the boat was happily anchored, the captain came on and told us about the dive site itself.

Since Dave was using Nitrox, he wanted to go deep, so he and I planned to go down the anchor line to about 85 feet, then slowly ascend along the sloping bottom and end the dive right under the boat. Mark and Chuck planned to descend with us, but stay a bit shallower, so we agreed to go our separate ways once on the bottom.

Wow, was the water cold!! We were all wearing wetsuits, but if I go back I'm definitely getting a drysuit first. The high was 57 degrees, low 54; that's about my limit in a wetsuit, and I definitely cut my dives short because of the temp. Also, the vis was really low, maybe 20 feet at best. The dives were amazing though, full of big life, but cold and cloudy.

On this first dive, we saw lots of cool sponges, anemones, nudibranchs, and rock fish rock fish rock fish! Yes, there were that many...all kinds. We saw lots of vermilion, china, black, and others, as well as lots of sheepheads. A few hunters onboard thinned the population a bit, but there's plenty there so the island is not over-fished in any way. We even saw some huge abalone-they're making a good comeback. In addition, the kelp was healthily thick as salad, with surgy conditions that wrapped it around us like loving scarves. I took my new camera housing (Olympus PT030) sans camera because I wanted to make sure the housing didn't leak. It worked like a charm.

Back on board, we warmed up with some hot chocolate and discussed all the cool things we saw. Meanwhile, the crew moved the boat to a spot nearby. A short surface interval later (our tanks were filled pretty quickly), we were getting back in the water.

The second dive, Mark opted to skip because of the cold, so Chuck joined me and Dave. We saw a sea lion or two, more of the same rock fish rock fish rock fish, plus more nudis and abalones. One might think seeing a lot of the same critters would get boring; but actually it was great because we rarely see so many of these species at the other islands.

I happily snapped away with my camera, though I have to admit the shots could have been better-I'm still learning my camera. Since the vis was so low, it was definitely a macro day, and I have to learn how to control my camera in the surge.

One thing to remember in kelp diving is to end the dive with enough air that you can get back to the boat underwater. Trying to kelp crawl through a jungle is difficult. We managed very well, and I even got some great pix of the canopy. I love seeing sunlight filter down through the water column-I call it "god rays"-so I spent a bit of time capturing that.

After the second dive, we moved the boat yet again, and on this dive we saw more sea lions. They never came too close, but a few dive bombed us. They seemed larger than the ones we see closer to LA, but of course everything underwater appears larger so I couldn't be sure. This time, Mark and Chuck joined me and Dave, but Chuck used up his air rather quickly so he and Mark surfaced while Dave and I continued. More rock fish!

Then we ate a great lunch-burgers and fries for most, but there were other options on the menu, and Jill was great about getting it cooked quickly-and did a fourth dive! The captain said it was such a good day that he would open the gate for a short time (after moving the boat), and on this short dive Dave and I dove with Mark. Talk about surge! This one had us going to and fro like a washing machine. We were in only 25 feet of water, and the kelp was thick, which made navigating that much more difficult, not to mention taking pictures. If you ever really want to practice underwater photography, do so in surgy conditions-if you can master taking stills there, you can master any kind of photography!

Toward the end of the dive, Dave and I saw a sheep crab with lots of barnacles on its back; kinda looked like a bus, taking the kids to school. I got a quick pic of it before we made our final ascent.

Once back on the boat, and after tearing down our gear, Jill hooked us up with some ice cream and huge cookies fresh from the oven. Yum! Then, we made a 5 hour trip back to Santa Barbara. I used the time to nap, and actually slept the whole way, my body happily filled with cookies and more great experiences underwater.

So if you ever get a chance to take the Vision to San Miguel, do it! Both the boat and the island are well worth the investment in time and money. Just remember to board the night before, and bring a dry suit if you get cold easily. And don't forget it's a 90 minute drive!

I'm ready to go again!

RECENT DIVING AT REDONDO AND MALAGA COVE BY DAVID CARLSON

Kathy and I have done a couple of dives lately and have had quite a nice time of it. We have done 2 night dives off of Redondo on different days. On the first night we saw more red rock crab than I have ever seen. They were everywhere and chasing each other and anything else that was on the bottom.

The second dive was a week later and we saw a few squid. I was surprised to find squid at this time of year. I knew they came in late December and January but I didn't think they were around in June. Some of the DiveVets were there and they said there were lots of eggs between 70 and 90 feet. Our 3rd dive was a Sat dive with Mark and Yvette from Eureka and a new member and former student, Don Davis. We went to Malaga Cove because of the larger south swell. Being as protected as it is by PV made it an easy entry and exit.

Kathy and everyone had a great time because vis was ok for a beach dive and we must have seen a dozen Garibaldi and 10 octopus along with a big Angel Shark. We managed to make this an hour long dive and still have plenty of air left. Oh, the water temp was 69 degrees. Even I have been in my wet suit lately so that is good indication that the water is warm.

Check out **Aloha Dive** calendar at <http://www.dive-aloha.com/> and press the calendar button on the left



Check out **Hollywood Divers** Dive Classes and boat schedule online. Follow this link: <http://www.hollywooddivers.com/> go to the download 2006 calendar in pdf.

HOW TO CREATE YOUR OWN 6 PACK



1. Get 5 other divers.
2. Decide where you would like to dive is Southern California.
3. Call Chris or Colleen at Aloha Dive and book The Great White.

It's that simple. Go to your favorite dive sites with your favorite dive buddies.

**For additional details, call
Aloha Dive at (818) 700-8134**

EQUIPMENT ALERT

Sport Chalet the will not be filling ALL aluminum cylinders.

Tanks, made by Luxfer before May of 1988 or made by Walter Kidd before June of 1989 will not be filled by Sport Chalet. This is because they were using an aluminum alloy, AL6351, that has been the source of some cylinder failures.

Sport Chalet will give you a \$40 credit toward the purchase of a new cylinder, aluminum or steel. Check your tanks and do it while they are giving the credit. It may not last for long.

DIVING LINKS

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

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 - National Weather Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration marine weather report/forecasting.

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

cawreckdivers.org - California Wreck Divers.

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 - Compiled SoCal surf & weather information.

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



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



Date	Day	Beach / Boat	Destination	Cost	Included	Boarding	Depart	Return
15 July	Sat	Latigo Shores, Malibu & Club Picnic						
29 July	Sat	Catalina Express or Catalina Ferries ⁴	Avalon	54 67	Nada	Varies		
8-16 Aug		Mackerrcher State Park, Fort Bragg Camping & Abalone Skin Diving						
12 Aug	Sat	Lois Ann SC	Yukon, Ruby E	82	Food & Air	7 AM	7:30	12 Noon
19 Aug	Sat	Shaws Cove	Laguna	Free	Nada		9 AM	
29 Sept	Fri	Magician SC	Lobster Night Dive	117	Food & Air	8 PM	9 PM	7 AM
7-Oct - 14 Oct		Club Cantamar	La Paz, Mexico	1,470	Travel, Hotel, Diving, 3 meals daily			
14 Oct	Sat	Pacific Star ³	Catalina	140	Food & Air	9 AM	10 AM	10 PM
4 Nov	Sat	Great Escape ⁵	Santa Barbara	150	Food & Air	10 PM	1 AM	6 PM

"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 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.

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

****You can reserve your spot on the Truth by calling (805) 962-1127****

⁴ Catalina Express (800) 481-3470 Catalina Ferries (310) 305-7250

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

Bottom Scratcher (714) 963-4378	http://www.bottomscratcher.com/	Berth 55 555 Pico Ave Long Beach
CeeRay (562) 867-9738		Berth 55 555 Pico Ave Long Beach
Encore (310) 541-1025	http://www.encorediveboat.com/	200 Aquarium Way, Long Beach
Great Escape (866)348-3262	http://www.diveboat.com/	Berth 55, Pier C, Long Beach
Island Time (866) 488-3483	http://www.expressdivers.com/	182 Marina Drive, Long Beach
Magician (310) 548-6129	http://www.magicianscuba.com/	22nd Street Landing, San Pedro
Lois Ann (800) 201-4381	http://www.loisann.com/	
Pacific Star 626-716-1796	http://www.pacificstardiving.com	181 N. Harbor Dr., Redondo Beach
Peace (866) 984-2025	http://www.peaceboat.com	1559 Spinnaker Dr., Ventura
Spectre (805) 483-6612	http://calboatdiving.com/	1575 Spinnaker Dr.,105B-59
Sunfish (805) 644-1499	http://www.socaldive.com	
Truth Aquatics (805) 962-1127	http://www.truthaquatics.com	301 W. Cabrillo Blvd. Santa Barbara

PACIFIC EXPLORERS 2006 BOARD

PRESIDENT KEVIN SULLIVAN
VICE PRESIDENT DAVID CARLSON
TREASURER KATHY WHITE
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BEACH DIVE COORDINATOR MIKE BUSHELL
RAFFLE COORDINATOR ED MICKUS
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CLUB PHOTOGRAPHER VERNON BROWN

Web Site: www.pacificexplorers.org Board: 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. 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.

Membership Update 94 Members

New Members

Ann Costigan
Hawk Costigan-Klein

Anna Schutte
Gary King

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Andres Alfaro

GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

Anna Schulte
Haawk Costigan
Ron Michalski
Gary King

Victoria
Kalani Patterson
Sandra Sanchez

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: