

# The Pacific Explorer

## July 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)

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...*



### REEF CHECK FOUNDATION

Founded in 1996 by marine ecologist Dr. Gregor Hodgson, the Reef Check Foundation is an international non-profit organization dedicated to conservation of two ecosystems: tropical coral reefs and California rocky reefs. With headquarters in Los Angeles and volunteer teams in more than 80 countries, Reef Check works to create partnerships among community volunteers, government agencies, businesses, universities and other non-profits. Reef Check goals are to: educate the public about the value of reef ecosystems and the current crisis affecting marine life; to create a global network of volunteer teams trained in Reef Check's scientific methods who regularly monitor and report on reef health; to facilitate collaboration that produces ecologically sound and economically sustainable solutions; and to stimulate local community action to protect remaining pristine reefs and rehabilitate damaged reefs worldwide.

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



July's club beach dive is Saturday the 14th. We will meet at 9:00AM at 40000 PCH AKA County Line, Staircase or Harrisons Reef. Directions are as follows; take PCH west just past Leo Carrillo, the entrance is a gate just past the county line marker with a large black mail box marked 40000. If you start down the hill towards Neptunes Net restaurant and see the blue roofs of the condos you have gone too far. There is a fee for parking but is only 2-4 dollars. It is a bit of a climb down to the beach (about the same as old Marineland). It is a sandy beach making for an easy entry and exit. It is a fairly short swim to a very strong reef. See you there.

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



We will be taking the Great Escape to San Clemente Island. The cost is \$155 and includes air fills and food. This is a Reef Seekers so club members are eligible for a 10% discount. The boat boards on the 20<sup>th</sup> at 10 pm and departs at 1 am on the 21<sup>st</sup>. They are expecting to return by 6 pm on the 21<sup>st</sup>. The boat may already be sold out but you can check for cancellations. You can make reservations by calling Reef Seekers at 310-652-4990. Reef Seekers also has a policy of no nitrox and anyone returning to the boat with less than 500 psi in their tank is done diving for the day.

### **Bonus Boat Dive**

For those members interested in diving Begg Rock the Sea Divers have chartered the Peace for a two day trip on July 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. The cost is \$275 for those not members of the Sea Divers. Reservations can be made by calling 714-377-8044. The Sea Divers site is [www.seadivers.org](http://www.seadivers.org).



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

### **RECENT EVENTS**

As I write this, I can't really speak as to how this month's club dives went, as I haven't heard back from anyone who was on the Magician to San Clemente, and the beach dive at El Pescador is next weekend. I am hoping to see as good a turnout at the beach as we had last time. And if conditions are as good as Mike Bushell and Dave Bentley have experienced there so far this year, it should be a great day!

Liz and I took a trip out with the California Wreck Divers two weeks ago to a couple of small wrecks in the San Pedro channel. We had a great day with this group, and were treated to our first sighting of wolf eels!! This was really exciting for us, especially as we hadn't expected to see them this far south. Wolf eels are more common in waters north of Point Conception, though I have heard some reports of sightings at deeper locations in local waters. It was a really fun day with a very fun group of folks.

Our June club meeting speaker, Karen Elaine, gave us an excellent presentation on her excursion to Antarctica. We were very interested in hearing about her experience, as we had just gotten an issue of Fathoms magazine at the SCUBA show, and there was an article about this very subject which whetted our appetite for her presentation perfectly! Karen obviously enjoyed her trip very much, and her stories of 17 ft. leopard seals (yes...SEVENTEEN feet!!!), penguins, icebergs, Czech divers, equipment considerations, and even kelp!! For those up for the challenge of 28 degree water (wow...can't really complain about 55 anymore!), this would be a wonderful experience to work towards.

And speaking of the 2007 SCUBA show, it was a great time this year (as always). Several Explorers went to Casino night in support of the California Ships to Reefs (CS2R) organization as well. This was a really fun evening with some great prizes being raffled off at the close of the evening's event. We got lots of information for planning the club's 2008 trip (see below) at the show, and as always, probably spent more time catching up with everyone we ran into in the aisles than actually looking over the exhibits! That's one thing that always amazes me about the SCUBA show, you forget just how many people you have come to know within the diving community from year to year until you run into all of them at one event...and that's a GREAT thing!

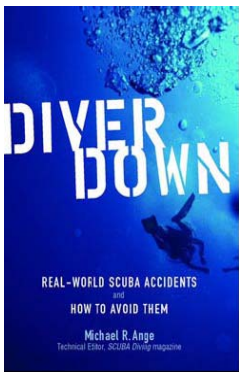
This past Saturday Sport Chalet had their annual SCUBA swap sale at participating stores (Thousand Oaks was the closest to the Valley) and several Explorers, including Liz and I, had some very nice equipment out there for sale. This is part of SC's annual SCUBA month in June, and is a great opportunity to either pick up some good equipment for a good price, or get rid of some of that equipment that's cluttering up your closet. On that same day, Xtreme SCUBA in Ventura had an Anniversary BBQ and swap meet of their own, and even had a large portable pool setup so people could tryout rebreathers under the watchful eyes of their excellent staff. This was our first time at this store and we had a great time meeting the staff and talking with the folks who attended the event, many of whom were from the Channel Islands Dive club, and several Explorers as well. And let me tell you...the BBQ tri-tip and chicken was AWESOME!!

### **UPCOMING**

Well, this might be quite a ways out in the "Upcoming" list, but we have settled on the destination for the club's 2008 international destination. Next year we will be headed back to the Caribbean, and the island of Bonaire! We will be traveling there during the early summer (during the week of June 21 through June 28...or very close to those dates) and have scheduled this trip so that our members who cannot travel during the "school year" proper can join us this year. Bonaire is known as the beach diving capital of the world, and pretty much the entire southern coast of the island is one big beach dive site. However, just because this location is known for its beach diving doesn't mean you can't do some boat diving as well. Most resorts there provide three boat excursions per day (early morning, late morning, and afternoon), and the typical arrangement is to schedule one boat dive per day for the group. Boats generally travel to a small islet to the south of the main island called Klein Bonaire, but may also take divers to locations that are also accessible by beach, but may require more of a surface swim to get to the reef. You are welcome to book additional boat outings as well. We are currently evaluating a couple of different resorts on the island, and are looking to keep the trip cost as low as we can while still getting a good trip setup. There is one thing that definitely applies to Bonaire....if you don't get enough diving there, you have nobody to blame but yourself!!! Stay tuned Explorers!

DIVE ON...

Your President, Kevin Sullivan



**Book Review by Liz Sullivan**  
**Diver Down**  
**Real World Scuba Accidents**  
**And**  
**How To Avoid Them**  
**By Michael R. Ange**

Here is a quick blurb about a new book that I just finished reading. I highly recommend this for divers of all experience levels. It's not necessarily the light and happy reading you might enjoy before bedtime but I think everyone can come away from reading this with some good insight into dive accidents, how they happen and how not to compound an emergency situation.

As Michael Ange states in the preface, scuba diving is a relatively safe sport statistically but there are still inherent risks associated. The author does a great job of sampling many types of dive accidents that have occurred for a variety of reasons and he lays them out in detail. The situations in the book involve divers using basic scuba equipment to more technical diving. The people in the stories (names and locations protected) are from all age groups and certification levels. Each story is very different from the next so the reader gets exposed to the types of things that can potentially go wrong on a typical or not so typical dive day.

The other thing I really like about this book are the informative side-bars that each story has within it. There are 35 educational sections throughout the book that contain great information directly related to the incident discussed in that chapter. For example, there are sections that explain the mechanics of dive equipment, from a regulator to a rebreather, and other sections explain the basic physics and potential injuries that can occur while diving on air or trimix. Some topics cover specialty training and rescue skills as well as the technical skills needed for both shipwreck and cave diving. If you have not trained for these skills, this book is a good way to get some basic information about them. At the end of each chapter are some "Strategies for Survival" that are brief bullet points with tips to avoid common mistakes.

As a final note, I think we all do the best we can to make the world safe for ourselves on a daily basis. It is definitely easy to read any of the stories in the book and think about those simple actions that could have helped prevent a dire situation and wonder how such an emergency could have happened. Following the guidelines taught by instructors is a part of it. In addition to that, the lessons learned by survivors provide important information worth reading about.

**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. NON 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 NON 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 Pacific Explorer's Dive Club Board of Directors Meeting June 6, 2007**

Board members attending: Kevin Sullivan, Liz Sullivan, David Carlson, Jeffrey Adler, Michael Griffith, Craig Hoover, Michael Bushell and Tanda Lockett. Board members absent: David Bentley and Russell Burt.

Guests: Kathy White and Kathleen Griffith.

Kevin called the meeting to order at 7:00 at Tortilla Loca restaurant in Reseda.

President-Kevin Sullivan: Kevin lead a discussion on where next year's dive trip would be held. The board took and a vote and it was decided that the club would be going to Bonaire June 21 -28, 2008.

Treasurer-Liz Sullivan: Liz said that 20 people had paid to go on the trip to Indonesia.

Vice President-David Carlson: David talked about the details for the club's trip to Indonesia.

Beach Dive Coordinator-Mike Bushell: Mike said that the June beach dive would be held at El Pescador, on June 30<sup>th</sup> at 9:00AM.

Opportunity Awards Coordinator-Craig Hoover: Craig stated that he was acquiring the awards for the June club meeting.

Newsletter-Jeffrey Adler: Jeffrey said that the June newsletter was small. He needs more club members to submit articles for the newsletters.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00PM.

## **Minutes from the Pacific Explorer's Dive Club General Meeting June 13, 2007**

Kevin Sullivan called the meeting to order at Denny's in Canoga Park at 7:00PM.

President-Kevin Sullivan: Kevin stated that he enjoyed going to the scuba show. He said that there were lots of good vendors and travel exhibits. He also stated that he had fun attending Casino Night. Although he didn't win any prizes, he was inspired by Dick Long's speech about the CA. Ships to Reef project. Kevin mentioned that he and Liz had gone out diving on 2 different days. One day they went out on the Raptor to Anacapa, and on the second day they dove with the Wreck Divers at Long Beach. Kevin was pleased to report that he and Liz saw 2 ghost eels while they were diving at the wreck. Finally, Kevin told the dive club members that next year's club trip would be held at Bonaire June21-28, 2008.

Beach Dive Coordinator-Mike Bushell: Mike stated that 9 club members had taken part in the club dive at Deer Creek. Mike also mentioned that the June dive will be held on June 30<sup>th</sup> at El Pescador at 9:00AM. He said that if the visibility is good, divers will be able to see some great rock formations and lots of sea life. On July 14<sup>th</sup> the beach dive will be held at Staircase/County line.

Boat Dive Coordinator-David Bentley: David stated that the May boat dive out to Farnsworth Banks had to be cancelled due to rough seas. The June boat dive trip will be out to San Clemente on the Magician. On July 21<sup>st</sup> our club members are welcome to join the Reef Seekers charter on the Great Escape out to San Clemente.

Membership-Michael Griffith: Michael announced that we had lots of visitors at our meeting. Our guests introduced themselves as: Adam, Jackie, Dave, Phil, Randy, Paige, John and Martina.

Treasurer-Liz Sullivan: Liz needs the final payment checks ASAP for everyone going on the trip to Indonesia.

Vice President-David Carlson: David introduced our guest speaker Karen Elaine. Karen gave us a fabulous glimpse of diving at the Antarctic, as well as other exotic destinations in the world. During Karen's diving trip at the Antarctic, she joined a group of divers on a 200 feet Russian Research Vessel. The group was diving in locations where no other divers had dived before. Karen showed us great photos of the sea life in the Antarctic, as well as the life on the ice. It was interesting to see the photos of Karen playing her violin to the penguins, and how one penguin was flapping his wings to her music. Thank you Karen for the wonderful photos, music and lively commentary.

Opportunity Awards Coordinator-Craig Hoover: Craig purchased and presented the opportunity awards to the following recipients:

Body Glove backpack-Wally Burke

Folding chair-BJ Rogers

Princeton Tec LED light-Clive Smith

Ocean Management systems tee shirt- Steve Rogers

Multi-Mat for the beach-Nancy Burke

Larry the Pirate Lobster-Nikki Vaughan

Buckle strap, key buoy, dive pin- John Ovsepan

Meeting adjourned at 8:45PM.



# 2007 PACIFIC EXPLORERS DIVE SCHEDULE COME ON OUT & GET WET!!!



## Beach Dives

Date	Day	Beach	Time	
14 July	Sat	40,000 PCH	9 AM	
25 Aug	Sat	Leo Carrillo N	9 AM	Annual Dive Club Picnic

## INTERNATIONAL DIVING

13-26 Sept		Indonesia	2,600	Air, lodging 21 dives, most meals
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## Boat Dives

		Boat	Destination	Cost	Included	Boarding	Depart	Return
21 July	Sat	Great Escape	Reef Seekers	155.00	Food & Air	10 P 7/20	1 A	6 P
27-28 July	Fri-Sat	Peace	Sea Divers <sup>6</sup>					
18 Aug	Sat	Lois Ann <sup>3</sup>	Yukon, Ruby E.	75.00	Food & Air	7:30 A	8 A	12 P
3 Sept	Mon	Sundiver	Local Wrecks	125.00	Food & Air	8 P 9/2	7 A	5 P
28 Sept	Fri	Magician <sup>3</sup>	Opening Night Lobster Dive	120.00		8 P	9 P	7 A
13 Oct	Sat	Sea Bass <sup>4A</sup>	Oil Rigs	130.00	Food & Air		10 A	10 P
24 Nov	Sat	Pacific Star	Catalina 10/10 Lobster		Food & Air		1 A	6 P
8 Dec	Sat	Peace <sup>5</sup>	Anacapa Island					

<sup>1</sup> Reserve your spot by e-mailing [divetrips@pacificexplorers.org](mailto:divetrips@pacificexplorers.org)

<sup>2</sup> Reserve you spot by calling Reef Seekers 310-652-4990

<sup>3</sup> Reserve you spot by calling Sport Chalet 800-348-3794

<sup>4</sup> Reserve you spot by calling Hollywood Divers 323-969-9875

<sup>5</sup> Reserve you spot by calling Aloha Dive 818-700-8134

<sup>6</sup> Reserve your spot by calling Sea Divers 714-377-8044.

<sup>A</sup> Advanced Divers Only

### “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.

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**

**102 Members**

**New Members**

Adam Post  
Dinna (Nikki) Vaughn

Phillip Frady  
Joseph Spahr

### **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:

Kevin Shapiro OW Instructor  
Eric Montoya Master Scuba Diver  
Patric Desbrow Master Scuba Diver

Kalani Patterson Dan-Padi 02 Certified  
Eric Montoya Divemaster