



SEA DIVERS

FEBRUARY 1988

FEB 2 General Meeting, Tequilla Willie's, 7 PM
FEB 9 Executive Committee Meeting, 7 PM
Location to be announced at General Meeting

MARCH 1988

MAR 1 General Meeting
MAR 5 Boat Dive, San Nicholas Island
MAR 8 Executive Meeting

APRIL 1988

APR 5 General Meeting
APR 12 Executive Meeting
APR 16 Boat Dive, Olympic / Valiant Wrecks

General Meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month. A no host social hour precedes the meeting from 6 PM to 7 PM and a feature presentation follows the business meeting. The meeting is held at Tequilla Willie's at 3290 Sepulveda Blvd in the Manhattan Village Mall.

		FEBR	UAR	Y 19	88	
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thr	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	8	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29					

		MAR	CH 1	988	2.25	
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thr	Fri	Sat
		ป	2	3	4	8
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

		APR	IL 19	988		Business or the same
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thr	Fri	Sat
			THE R		1	2
3	4	8	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	13
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

DIVERS DIRECTORY



POSITION	NAME	DAY PHONE	EVE PHONE
PRESIDENT	Allen Parker	536 - 2614	370 - 1657
TREASURER	Kathi McNally	812 - 2385	370 - 1657
SECRETARY	Sandi Anderson	373 - 5430	373 - 5430
SEA REPERSENATIVE	Paul Kaminski	297 - 7846	540 - 4142
DIVING OFFICER	Ken Sizemore	410 - 3932	371 - 2636
BEACH DIVE CHAIRMAN	VACANT		
BOAT DIVE CHAIRMAN	Allen Parker	536 - 2614	370 - 1657
BOAT DIVE RESERVATIONIST	Mike Mclaughlin	535 - 0031	374 - 4698
CLUB MEETING PROGRAMS	Dicie Sizemore	371 - 2636	371 - 2636
MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN	Kathi McNally	812 - 2385	370 - 1675
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	Patrick Minor	536 - 3005	378 - 9350
HOSPITALITY CHAIRMAN	Robin Grant	823 - 2552	823 - 2552
LONG RANGE PLANNING	Billy Garrett		

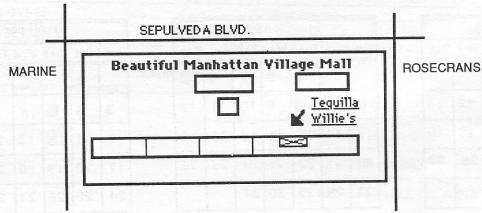
WALT MUSSER WILL "TAKE US" TO BELIZE IN FEBRUARY

Last summer Walt and his charming wife, Lois Musser, had the pleasure of visiting the Central American country of Belize which is located south of Yucatan, Mexico, and east of Guatemala. He has graciously volunteered to share some of their photo images and relate some stories of their adventure, Also on the same trip were fellow TRW SEA Divers John Dorsey, Tom Steinhof, and Bonnie Chettle. They spent a week on board "La Strega" and dove the off-shore reefs of Belize. Walt comments that he was impressed with the numerous tame fish in these waters. These reef formations are remote and are not readily accessible to fishermen, thus the population of groupers, snappers, hogfish, and other large fish is unmatched in the Caribbean.

A highlight of their diving experience was the Blue Hole, a 150' dive into what was once an above water cave. With the change in water levels over the ages, the cave is now submersed and the roof has collapsed forming a hollowed out mushroom effect. The interior curved walls are decorated with stalactites, making it a most curious dive site indeed.

In addition to the diving portion of their adventure, they also spent four days in the jungles of Belize and made a visit to Guatemala. Walt and Lois, as you may recall, walked off with top honors at our TRW SEA Divers Photo Contest last year, I'm sure they've brought back more examples of their photographic expertise from this trip. You won't want to miss this presentation. See you February 2nd!

Dicie Sizemore - Program Chairman



FROM THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

First let me take this opportunity to thank our departing 1987 officers. GREG HINDMAN our President, JOHN MOSHER the SEA Representative, DANIEL BITTON - Beach Dive Chairman and ROBIN GRANT our Newsletter Editor. The rest of the 1987 group "volunteered" to continue into 1988...!? As you will see in the Diver's Directory yours truly is the new Pres, Paul Kaminski our SEA Rep, Pat Minor the Newsletter Editor, Robin Grant our Hospitality Chairperson, Billy Garrett (welcome back!) volunteered to plan our long range and/or overseas dives, so the only vacancy at present is the Beach Dive Chair. Volunteers please.

Last year we really turned the club around and our aim for 1988 is to continue our growth and expand our diving horizons. The social element of the club is also thriving and we plan to further develop in that area.

Let me remind you that all dues are due and payable as of l January 1988. If you are interested in having your name on a buddy list please so indicate on the dues renewal form.

We are planning to have an equipment "Swap Meet" at the April General Meeting, so if you have any items you would like to sell or exchange, plan on bringing them along in April (tanks at low pressure please!)

Elsewhere in this newsletter is an update to our dive boat policy. Boat divers should read the policy and if you have any questions please raise them at the General Meeting or call one of the club officials.

Our dive boats continue to overfill, the treasury is in good shape, our new meeting place is great (if a little crowded!), we have T-shirts, and we are growing - sounds like a great year ahead - stay involved, dive safely and in general "SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL CLUB."

See you at the next General Meeting on the 2nd of February...

BOAT DIVES

The following dives are being considered for the all inclusive NOTE: food, beverage and air type of charter. We will poll all those signed-up prior to the dive before committing. The increase in price in each case would be about \$13

05 MARCH 1988

SAN NICHOLAS

WILD WAVE

MEMBERS \$52

NON-MEMBERS \$59

LOBSTER season continues - especially at SAN NICHOLAS! Yes the big bugs are still out there, and for our last bug trip of this season, we will be taking the WILD WAVE from 22nd Street on another quick trip to the island.

We were out to SAN NICHOLAS by a little after 5:00 AM on our October 1987 trip so bring along your chem lights and dive lights for an early morning night dive. Along with LOBSTER, large FISH inhabit the island waters just waiting to play "spear" with our divers.

Depending on ocean conditions - it was flat last time out - there are some good PHOTOGRAPHY spots and although SAN NICHOLAS is not quite as pretty underwater as others, visibility this season has been above average. Diving should be good for all skill levels, watch the current and check with the divemaster.

At the time of writing this trip is about half full. Call Mike (McLaughlin) at (213) 374-4698 for early sign up. Boarding will begin at 9:00 PM, Friday the 4th for a midnight departure.

16 APRIL 1988

"OLYMPIC" AND "VALIANT" WRECKS/ BOLD CONTENDER CATALINA FRONTSIDE

MEMBERS \$41

NON-MEMBERS \$48

Our first "BOLD CONTENDER" dive for 1988 will be to the wrecks of the "OLYMPIC" and "VALIANT", and then on to the frontside of CATALINA island to complete what should be a great trip.

We will dive the "OLYMPIC" first and then cruise over to the Avalon area to dive the "VALIANT". Both dives are in the 90-100 feet depth region, so surface time while cruising over will be important. Depending on our time at Avalon over the "VALIANT" it may be possible for bubble watchers (and others) to take the shore boat into town. The March Newsletter will feature detailed descriptions and history of both wrecks. After the "VALIANT" dive we will probably make two shallow dives on the frontside of CATALINA before returning to Ports 'O Call in the evening.

The "BOLD CONTENDER" is at Berth 76 in Ports 'O Call and we will depart prompt at 7:00 AM on the 16th. Boarding after 9:00 PM on Friday the 15th will be available.

We anticipate this being a very popular trip, so call Mike (Mc Laughlin) at (213) 374-4698 for early sign-up and avoid those wait lists!

DIVE BOAT NEWS

'BOLD CONTENDER" FOLLOW UP

As discussed in the last newsletter, we experimented with an all inclusive dive price on the Bold Contender single day dive to Santa Barbara Island on 5 December 1987. It was a tremendous success, and as a result we will be featuring this format on several of our single-day dives in 1988. Check the write up for upcoming dives to see on which charters this format will be featured.

DIVE BOAT POLICY

As a result of some payment difficulties on our last boat dive, our dive boat policy has been updated as follows:

- 1) A club member may, but is not required to, have a boat deposit on file with the club.
- 2) A club member will have a confirmed reservation on an upcoming dive only if:
 - a) A check in the full amount for the dive has been received by the boat dive reservationist, or
 - b) The club member has a deposit on file with the club and makes a telephone request for a reservation with the boat dive reservationist. (Deposit is presently \$40 and will be \$50 for new deposits after 6/30/88.)
- 3) Any reservation may be cancelled two weeks prior to a dive with a full refund. Cancellations will not be accepted within the two weeks prior to the dive unless a diver holding a reservation can sell or transfer his reservation to another qualified diver. The dive reservationist will assist in this process, but is not responsible to provide paying alternates. When confirmation is received by the dive boat reservationist that a cancelling diver is being replaced by another qualified diver, the replacement diver is then fully responsible for the cost of the dive.
- 4) If a diver has a deposit on file with the club and uses that deposit to secure a reservation on a boat dive, he may not use that deposit to secure any additional dives until he has paid the club for the first boat dive. Two years after a diver has ceased to be a member of the club, his unclaimed dive boat deposit will be forfeited to the club.
- 5) Only TRW club and other selected dive club members may make boat dive reservations prior to one month before a boat dive. Reservations will be opened to non-members one month before a scheduled dive.
- 6) Partial refunds from boats which do not make the advertised dive location will be passed on to members who request them within two weeks of the dive.

CAVERN DIVING CERTIFICATION

Because several members of the Douglas and TRW Dive Clubs have expressed an interest in cavern diving, I have contacted an instructor who is willing to come to California and teach a Cavern Course. He will need 6-8 students to hold the course. Dives will be at Laguna Beach and either Catalina or Santa Rosa.

Prerequisite:

Basic Scuba Certification

Format: (a) deut a sund out bardupen den al dud . Yam an

Two evenings instruction and land drills (Thursday, Friday)
Two days diving (Saturday, Sunday)

Tuition: The and evil add to the sea frames flut and al seem A

\$125 plus boat dive fees \$10 for National Speleological Society (NSS) certification NAUI Certification included in tuition fee

Minimum Required Equipment:

Single tank with K valve
SPG
Octopus
Two lights
B.C. with CO2 inflator removed and plugged
Mask, fins, wetsuit, weight
Small sharp knife
Slate and pencil
Decompression Tables (submersible)
Watch and depth gauge

* Instructor will provide reels.

I will work with those interested to find a time that is mutually convenient for the class and the instructor. This course will prepare you to safely dive both salt and fresh water caverns and make you aware of the additional training required to proceed beyond the cavern zone (zone of natural light) into a cave.

If you are interested, please contact John Delaney (714) 953-4878.

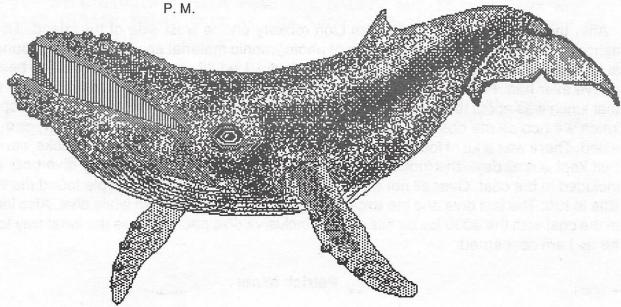
LESSONS LEARNED

It was Wednesday the first day of lobster season! I should have known that it was going to be one of those days. The first thing I did after I got out of bed was crush my contact lens. Fortunately I have an extra pair of glasses and a mask with prescription lenses. So that small problem out of the way, I set off to Santa Barbara Island in search of lobster.

On the first dive I saw one dead lobster, one undersized lobster, and just as I got to 500 lbs of air one large antenna sticking out of a hole. Even though I was getting low on air I tried to get the lobster out of its hole. But that last 500 lbs goes fast. The next time I looked at the gauge I had less then 200 lbs left. So after one more quick attempt to get that one big lobster, I gave up and headed for the surface. When I got there I had less then 100 lbs of air and I was about thirty feet from the boat Between me and it was the thickest bed of kelp I have seen in a long time. I was nearly out of air so I didn't want to risk going back down. My only option was to go over the kelp. That was the hardest trip back to the boat I have ever made. But the worst was yet to come.

The second dive was in a shallow area, less then 20 feet, where I got three green abalone, the only good thing about that dive. The third dive was thrilling even if it wasn't much fun. I was the last diver on the boat, I finished putting on my equipment except the fins and sat down on the edge. Just as I was putting my last fin on I was knocked overboard by a large swell. I took one quick breath and grabbed my mask just as I hit the water. As I sank below the surface I held my breath knowing that I would eventually come back up. When I finally did I was missing one fin, I looked around for it but I didn't see it anywhere. I have fins that should float so I thought maybe if I got up on the boat I might see it. I took my AT pack off and hooked it to the rope we put over the side for this purpose. I then climbed up on the boat for a look around but I still didn't see it. I then decided that I better check out the bottom hoping I might get lucky. I thought we were in about 70 feet of water no big deal to bounce down to the bottom just for a quick look around. Jumping back in the water I quickly put my equipment back on then descended until I was abut 20 feet above the bottom. I then checked my depth gauge and found that I was 120 feet, below the surface. I was surprised because I usually don't sink quite so rapidly because my ears usually won't clear that quickly, but this time they gave me no trouble at all. On the way down I thought something looked strange because the anchor rope was hanging straight up and down and I passed an anchor on the way. I took a quick look around but I didn't see my fin anywhere. It was then it dawned on me that the anchor floating ten feet over my head was in fact our boat anchor. The boat had broken loose and was drifting away. I decided I better get to the surface quickly and in my hurry lost control and made the surface in about 30 seconds. Fortunately I kept my head enough to blow bubbles all the way up. I really didn't intend to ascend that fast but I must have over inflated my BC as I had to let air out of it all the way up. I wasn't able to slow down until I was at about ten feet from the surface. When I got to the surface I was a few feet from the boat so I kicked to it as fast as possible. Hooked my equipment to the rope and got on board quick. I then started to pull the anchor up. By this time I was half way to the island. I got the anchor in then pulled my equipment on board. Next I had to figure out how to work the boat, because I had never driven a boat. I managed to get it started and then by going slow and easy to go back and pick up the diver's one at a time. One of which had surfaced while I was retrieving the boat and was a little surprised not to see it. Fortunately he was only on the surface a few minutes before I picked him up.

I think I learned a couple lessons from this trip. One I should have been buddy diving, most of my mistakes wouldn't have happened if I had. Two surface with enough air to go under the kelp. Three watch your depth closely and don't panic, think things through nothing is so bad it can't get worse. For example it was suggested to me later that I didn't have to hurry to the surface just grab the anchor and come up slowly. Four if you dive on a private boat be sure to check the anchor. Especially if nobody is staying on board.



Santa Barbara Dive Aftermath

The dive in December was a very good dive considering the storm of the night before. The storm was so intense that the I was surprised to learn that the dive was still on. But a check with the weather indicated the conditions the following day would be fine. This was hard to belive but they were right.. After confirming that the dive was not cancelled, I got ready to pack up the car. Just as I was getting ready to leave I looked out my balcony door to see a wall of water pouring from the roof. This lasted only about ten minutes then stopped. I then packed up the car and headed for the Bold Contender. By the time I got there the storm had stopped and the sky was beginning to clear. I got on board and went to sleep at about midnight the only time I woke up was when the boat crossed the breakwater, but I went right back to sleep and didn't wake up until we got to Santa Barbara shortly after sunrise.

The water was a little ruff but not to bad, we had one dive on the south east side of the island near Sutil Island, in about 60 to 70 feet of water. The first dive was rather uneventful with a few abalone and fish taken and the visibility didn't really allow much photography. The area was rather flat with a little kelp in the area. In between the dives we had an opportunity to sample the food which was very good. All food was included in the cost of the dive so price was no object and the selection was excellent. The breakfast had several selections which were prepared to order, the drinks were also included except alcohol. But who drinks when their diving? We then moved the boat to the south side of the island in the area of the arch. After about an hour of searching for the arch we gave up and dropped anchor in about 60 feet of water once again. This area was very similar to the last one except a little more kelp. There was a few fish and abalone taken. Including one large Red Abalone, at least it looked like a red. But we all know there are no red abs at Santa Barbara.

We then went to the third dive spot, a small cove on the south side of the island. Several divers went in hoping to at least get their quota of abalone, since their had been very little else taken. I have dove this cove several times myself, each time I have gotten my quota for the day. But when we dropped down about fifty yards from the beach we could barely see 10 feet and the visibility got worse the closer we got to shore. By the time we got to where the abs were it was impossible to see your hand in front of your face. So we aborted that dive and returned to the boat. Several divers stayed in the water for a full dive even though the visibility was very limited.

After this we proceeded to the Sea Lion rookery on the west side of the island. This dive although short on game, provided lots of photographic material and fun. I was surrounded by at least 6 sea lions at all times, all extremely playful. I would say that was one of the best dives I have ever had. I even got one abalone on this dive. Upon returning to the dive boat I found that lunch was about to be served. The hot shower before lunch though really hit the spot. For lunch we had all the ribs and barbecued chicken. With baked beans, cole slaw, and potato salad. There was a lot of food left when everyone had finished. There were snacks, candy and fruit kept out all day. The food was by far the best I have ever had on any dive boat and all included in the cost. Over all not a bad day diving although several people found the water a little to ruff. The last dive and the excellent food made it a very worth while dive. Also included in the cost was the 3000 lbs air fills. The all inclusive dive package was the ideal way to go as far as I am concerned.



<u> 1988 BOAT</u>

Sunday	24 January 88	Nine Fathom Reef / San Clemente Island (Backside)	Wild Wave / 22ND Street
Saturday	05 March 88	San Nicholas Island	Wild Wave / 22ND Street
Saturday	16 April 88	"Olympic & Valiant" Wrecks / Catalina (Frontside)	Bold Contender / Ports'O Call
Fri/Sat	20 / 21 May	San Miguel/Santa Rosa/ Santa Cruz	Peace / Ventura
Sun/Mon	19 / 20 June	Begg Rock/San Nicholas / Santa Barbara Island	Wild Wave / 22ND Street
Saturday	30 July 88	"Palawan & Avalon" Wrecks / Palos Verdes	Bold Contender / Ports'O Call
Sunday	21 Aug 88	Guli Island / Santa Cruz / Anacapa	Wild Wave / Ventura
Fri/Sat	16 / 17 SEP	Richardson's & Wilson's Rocks / San Miguel	Peace / Ventura
Sunday	30 October	San Nicholas	Wild Wave / 22ND. Street
Saturday	03 Dec 88	Santa Barbara	Bold Contender / Ports'O Call

Wild Wave - 22ND Street Landing: - South on Harbor freeway, left on Gaffey, left on 22nd street, down the hill and park in designated areas.

Bold Contender - Ports'O Call: - South on the Harbor freeway, left at Gaffey, left on 6th Street , cross Harbor Blvd. and turn right into the Ports'O Call complex. Follow the road into the Ports'O Call parking lot and park on aisle 40. The boat is at Berth 76

Peace - Ventura Marina: - North on Ventura freeway to Victoria Ave. in Ventura. Turn left onto Victoria and continue to Olivas Park Drive. Turn right and continue all the way down toward the beach and on to Spinnaker Drive. Park adjacent to berth which is behind Bedford's Restaurant at Slip # 20

the pertit which is periling	Dedicia 3 rice	stadiant at oup # =			
		BOAT DIVE R	ESERVATIO	N FORM	REYO.F
DIVE DATE:		DE.	STINATION		
NAME OF DIVER(S):					
TELEPHONE (DAY)		(E\	/E):		er seleda le-
MEMBER:	(YES)	(NO)	cost	OF DIVE: \$	- Takeo
Please make checks p	ayable to TRW	/ SEA DIVERS an	d mail to:	Mike Mc Laughlin 1121 Stanford Ave.	

Redondo Beach, CA. 90278 (213) 374-4698



TRW SYSTEMS GROUP

One Space Park Redondo Beach, California 90278

FIRST CLASS MAIL





003

KATHLEEN

MCNALLY

071694 R11 2049

TRW SEA DIVERS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME				HOME PHONE				
WORK PHON	E:	EMERGENCY PH		ZIP CODE				
IF TRW EMPL CERTIFICATION Do You want	OYEE:	M/S TYPE (NAUI, PA buddy list?	DI, ETC Yes)	ADD	NIGHT DIVER		
Type of diving	preferred: I g you are interested i	beach/boat/skin						
1988 Dues:	TRW Employee Non-TRW Member			TRW Family Mem Non-TRW Family	nbership Membership	\$20.00 \$30.00		

Please make checks payable to TRW SEA DIVERS and mail to :

TRW SEA DIVERS One Space Park, S/1420 Redondo Beach, CA. 90278