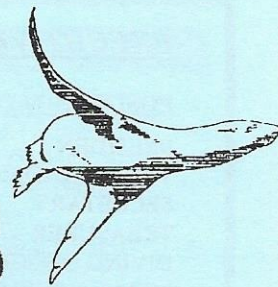




THE SEA DIVERS



IN AFFILIATION WITH AMERICAN DIVING

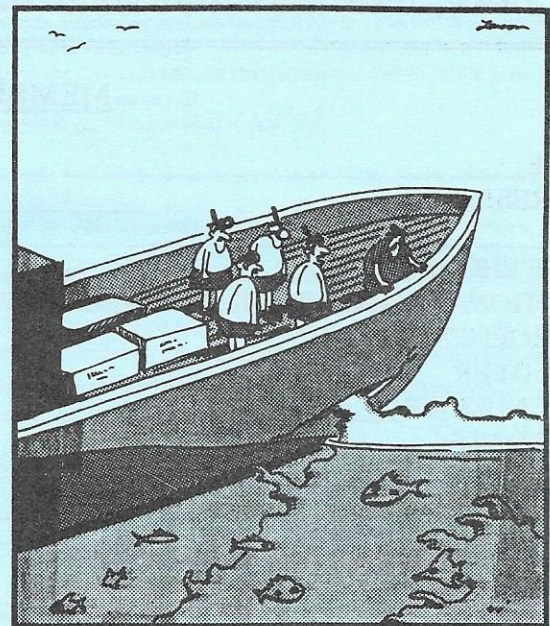
FROM THE EXECUTIVE VIEW....

Can't possibly be another year since the last (4th) King Harbor Underwater CleanUp - can it? As a club, 1996 has been an excellent year, for a variety of reasons. We made all of our planned dive boat destinations including Begg Rock twice, Richardson's Rock twice, Wilson Rock twice, along with San Clemente, Catalina, Santa Barbara, San Nicolas, Santa Cruz, Santa Rosa, and San Miguel Islands. Not bad! Our recent Baja annual was a blast and our next two day on *Encore* to Cortes Bank is full. So what of the future? We are almost complete with our boat dive schedule for 1997, seriously considering an upgraded beach dive program, and hope to get more of our over 130 members a little more active!! We'll plan the 6th CleanUp, probably for 19 October 1996, and throw a couple of out of country experiences in for good measure. We thank all of our members for the ongoing support and really thank our Major Sponsors, Sponsors, Donors, Divers, Surface Support folks, CleanUp Committee, and others that help make the King Harbor Underwater CleanUp the great event that it is.

A.P

NOVEMBER ENTERTAINMENT - UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHY

Our very own Dave Nesheim will be the presenter for the November General Meeting. Dave is an extremely active diver and avid underwater photographer. Besides being a long time member of The Sea Divers, Dave is an executive in the California Underwater Photographic Society (UPS). He has won several awards for his photos including "Best of Show" for the 1995 UPS competition. Dave's presentation will focus on photos he has taken recently in the Southern California area utilizing both Nikonos RS and V cameras. If you've never seen Dave's work, you're in for a treat! So c'mon down to Cathy's Deli on Tuesday the 5th of November and see some exceptionally beautiful up close and personal photos of our local underwater environs.



"Excuse me, Captain, but while we're waiting, would you like to join the crew and myself for a little snorkeling?"

SINCE 1965
NOVEMBER 1996 ISSUE
Volume 96, Issue 11

1996/1997 BOAT DIVE SCHEDULE

DIVE	DAY(S)	DATE(S)	DESTINATION	PRICE*	BOAT	LOCATION
96-9	SAT/SUN	2/3 NOV	CORTES BANK	\$195	ENCORE	22ND STREET
96-10	SAT/SUN	30 NOV/1 DEC	SAN MIGUEL PASSAGE/SANTA ROSA	\$180	PEACE	VENTURA MARINA
97-1	SUN	2 FEB	SAN CLEMENTE (BACKSIDE)	\$80	CHARISMA	22ND STREET
97-2	SAT	TBD MAR	SAN NICOLAS	TBD	TBD	TBD
97-3	SAT	12 APR	FARNSWORTH BANKS	\$70	CHARISMA	22ND STREET
97-C9	WED	7 MAY	CHAMBER DAY 9 / CATALINA	\$65*	CHARISMA	22ND STREET
97-4	FRI/SAT	9/10 MAY	SAN MIGUEL	\$180	PEACE	VENTURA MARINA
97-5	SAT	TBD JUNE	SANTA BARBARA	TBD	TBD	TBD
97-6	FRI/SAT	25/26 JULY	BEGG ROCK/SAN NICOLAS	\$185	CHARISMA	22ND STREET
97-SB	SUN	17 AUG	PALOS VERDES	\$20*	(Small Boats)	KING HARBOR
97-7	FRI/SAT	12/13 SEPT	RICHARDSON'S/WILSON ROCK	\$180	PEACE	VENTURA MARINA
97-8	SUN	TBD OCT	SAN NICOLAS	TBD	TBD	TBD
97-9	SAT/SUN	1/2 NOV	CORTES BANK	\$195	CHARISMA	22ND STREET
97-10	SAT/SUN	29/30 NOV	SAN MIGUEL PASSAGE	\$180	PEACE	VENTURA MARINA

*Prices are all inclusive (air, food, and beverages). Non-members add \$10 for single day and \$15 for two-day dives.
Dives 97-C9 and 97-SB do not include air, food, and beverages.

Charisma - 22nd Street Landing

South on Harbor freeway, left on Gaffey, left on 22nd Street, down the hill and park in designated areas.

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 across Harbor Drive, go to the left onto Spinnaker Drive. Look for Milano's Italian Restaurant and turn right into the parking area. If you get to the end of Spinnaker, turn around and take the second left. Park adjacent to the berth (Slip #20) to unload, then park overnight in the last row adjacent to Spinnaker Drive.

DIVE BOAT POLICY

A club member may, but is not required to, have a boat deposit on file with the club. A club member may make a reservation on an upcoming dive as follows:

- A) Unconfirmed reservations may be made for any boat dive at any time. To confirm a reservation, payment in full must be received.
- B) For single day dives, divers holding an unconfirmed reservation will be called 3 weeks prior to the dive and advised that payment in full is required no later than 15 days prior to the dive to be confirmed. Dive boat deposits will be considered as payment in full.
- C) For two day dives, divers holding unconfirmed reservations will be called 5 weeks prior to the dive and advised that payment in full is required no later than 30 days prior to the dive to be confirmed. Dive boat deposits may be used as part of the payment in full.
- D) If payment in full is not received by the deadline, the diver may be replaced by a wait listed diver who has paid in full.

Any reservation may be cancelled two weeks prior to a dive with a full refund. Cancellations will not be accepted within two weeks prior to the dive unless a diver holding a reservation can sell or transfer their reservation to another qualified diver. The dive reservationist will assist in this process, but is not responsible for providing 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.

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 additional dives until he has paid the club for the first 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. Only club members of The Sea Divers and members of other selected clubs may make boat dive reservations prior to one month before a scheduled boat dive. Partial refunds from single day boats which do not make the advertised dive location will be passed on to members who request them within two weeks.

BOAT DIVE RESERVATION FORM

DIVE DATE: _____ DESTINATION: _____

NAME OF DIVER(S): _____

PHONE (DAY): [] _____ (EVE) [] _____ COST OF DIVE \$ _____

MEMBER [] YES [] NO DATE OF LAST DIVE* : _____

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

THE SEA DIVERS
P.O. Box 2415
Redondo Beach, CA 90278
(310) 719-1816

* Please include date of last dive for each diver.

CORTES BANK NOVEMBER 2-DAY (SAT/SUN)

2/3 November 1996 (Sat/Sun)

Cortes Bank / San Clemente

ENCORE

Members \$195

(ALL INCLUSIVE!!)

Boarding 7:00 PM (11/1)

Non-Members \$210

Departure 11:00 PM (11/1)

For the first time in a couple of years we are going to go to Cortes Bank on a Saturday and Sunday for some world class diving. Based on our track record the last year or so the odds are excellent that we'll not only make it there but that conditions will be outstanding. In the last 12 months The Sea Diver charters have made ALL of Southern California's major pinnacle dives at least once, some numerous times!

Cortes Bank is located about 80 miles SSW of 22nd Street Landing and about 40 miles SW of China Point on San Clemente Island and is almost directly west of San Diego. As it is an exposed dive spot, 'The Bank' has not been dived as much as some of the closer in areas. Diving depths range from 20 to 120 feet, providing generally excellent game taking possibilities. Lobster in particular can be abundant and the various reefs making up 'The Bank' are home to many species of good sized fish. Photo and video buffs will not be disappointed. We are on the *Encore* and should be anchored by about 7:00 a.m. for our first dive. Our "fallback" and our "overnight" will likely be on the backside of San Clemente Island which also has great dive spots, especially on the backside.

This dive is generally considered an intermediate to advanced dive due to Cortes Bank's full exposure to the ocean. However, relative beginners can make the dives, assuming that ocean conditions relative to surge and/or current are within acceptable limits. San Clemente is suitable for all skill levels. The divemasters should be consulted based on your dive plan and/or experience.

This is an outstanding dive area. There are few chances to ever dive Cortes...and if you've ever dived the area, you'll never forget it. A truly world class dive. So come on out and help support the club and dive one of the best spots you'll ever see. Call Kathy (Kalohi) at (310) 719-1816 for sign-up and when you pay in full your favorite bunk will be pre-assigned, adding to your trip pleasure!. Boarding will begin at 7:00 PM on the 1st of November and leave promptly at 11:00 PM. **DON'T MISS THIS ONE!!**

WESTWARD WE GO

30 Nov/1 Dec 1996 (Sat/Sun)

Channel Islands → West

PEACE

Members \$180*

(INCLUDES AIR, BEVERAGES AND GOURMET FOOD!)

Boarding: 7:00 PM (11/29)

***Early Payment \$160 by 10/31**

Departure: 1:00 AM (11/30)

Non-Members \$195

The final Sea Diver charter for 1996 is on the *Peace* out of Ventura Marina. The dive calendar has listed the dive for the San Miguel Passage and Santa Rosa, however should the weather cooperate as it did in our May and September *Peace* two-day dives, we will head as far west as we can. Although not noted as the greatest lobster spot in the world, San Miguel offers some of the best diving around. The pinnacles are spectacular and offer many opportunities for scallops, fish, and excellent photography or video. With lobsters in mind we will take any opportunity to make Talcott Shoals off Santa Rosa Island which is noted for bugs. For the game takers this trip should provide many opportunities, for the photo/video/looky-loo divers there are some of the best opportunities.

As this is our pre-holiday season, we will add to the charter with a few extra goodies and amusing (hopefully) awards at no expense spared! The food fare on *Peace* is always outstanding and plentiful. The first day will provide heavy duty diving for those so inclined with up to 6 to 8 dives possible. The second day will be more leisurely with 3 or 4 dives anticipated. Dive spots will include areas suitable for relative beginners and hopefully some more advanced spots covering the full range of diver desires. Pinnacles have been "in" this year.

Bunks will be pre-assigned on a first paid basis. Call Kathy (Kalohi) at (310) 719-1816 for sign-up, and if we receive payment before 31 October 1996 you get 15 bucks off the member price. Great deal, great trip.

SAN MIGUEL TWO DAY

Well, unfortunately this author neglected to write this article in the few days immediately following the September trip on the *Peace* consequently I am being forced to rely on my somewhat flaky (or at times convenient) memory and almost illegible notes to tell you about the trip. As close as I can recollect it went something like this.

The trip was on Friday and Saturday the 6th and 7th of September aboard *Peace*. The Sea Divers were paired with an equal number of Wholers (I mean, Whalers...I can't read my own handwriting) to completely fill the boat...almost. There was ONE conspicuous absence, the President of The Sea Divers. Our fearless leader had made the mistake of scheduling his diving around his life instead of vice versa. As a result he was in the right hemisphere but the wrong continent when the rest of us were getting on the boat. Oh well, his loss.

On Friday morning the skipper dropped us in a place called Boomerang Banks off of San Miguel Island. This spot contained a ridge and series of pinnacles and was located about a third of the way between Wilson and Richardson's Rocks. Interesting diving with big scallops and lots of 'vegetation'. Note: to those of us that are lacking in the area of Marine Biology, everything that isn't a fish or a rock is 'vegetation'.

This first day featured an almost full circumferential tour of San Miguel with something for everyone. More pinnacle and scallop diving in the foul area near Wilson Rock, halibut diving in Lover's Cove, foo-foo diving around Prince Island, a trip to the Crook Point abalone quick pick spot, and two more dives near the end of the day in the 'Rain Barrel' area halfway between Tyler Bight and Crook Point. The water for all of the dives was somewhat green, with only 15-20 feet of visibility. My notes don't say anything about water temperature, so let's just call it 80°F. All in all a pleasant sunny day. We completed the day with another gourmet meal as only the *Peace* can provide. The only dive boat in the fleet that you can go on and dive every dive and STILL gain weight!!

Saturday was a short day of diving due to the the long run home. We made Richardson's for the first dive with gloomy conditions prevailing under the water. A considerable surface current was running around the edges of the Rock making swimming tiresome especially when hauling the obligatory scallops. As a result a couple individuals requested the *Peace* 'Gray Taxi'. My notes failed to document who those individuals were. Anyway, we did two more dives, one at Castle Rock to round out limits of red abalone for the trip and the final dive a short distance away slightly closer to shore. There was a considerable amount of game taken during this trip by both the Whalers and The Sea Divers, so much of the trip home was spent cleaning fish and/or analyzing others filleting techniques. The perennial 'Cocoa Butter Open' crew retired to the veranda for a long but pleasant session of bronzing on the way home. Another wonderful trip...you missed it Mr. President!

PEACE Quotes...

"Topless scallop cleaning."

"You just put the tip in and wiggle it around a little bit
- it opens right up for you."

"He didn't take direction well."

"I'm an ecology diver."

"You're svelte-plus!"

"If you get one behind, you can never catch up for the
rest of your life."

"I haven't said 'I do' yet."

"You haven't said 'I don't'!"

"Is he your significant other?"

"He's getting less significant as time goes by."

"I got tired."

"You got rescued!"

"It's too calm!"

"She speaks snorkel."

"He's in so deep, he doesn't know how to get out."

"There's a lot of that going around. Some people are
in deeper than others!"

"Some guys like it on the floor in a heap."

"If she talks to you and smiles, she's a six
automatically."

"You have a forgettable face, John."

"I have a forgettable everything."

"Nobody at this bar."

"I never noticed you had a great preference for a
particular position."

"What gear DID you bring?!"

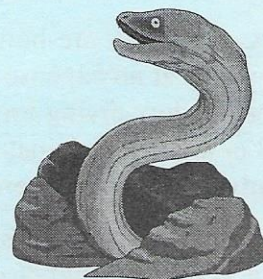
"We're about there but we're not there."

"I found the mother lode."

"Breakfast brownies! I love
it!"

"He was the 3-sigma mid-life
crisis."

"Typical halibut dive. I came
up and the boat was just a
small speck on the horizon."



BAJA ANNUAL.....FROM ONE PERSPECTIVE...

The club's now almost annual trip to Baja and the Sea of Cortez took place 24 September through 30 September 1996. This year instead of 7 days 6 nights in La Paz we did 3 nights in La Paz and 3 nights in Punta Pescadero, about 65 miles south of La Paz.

In La Paz, we stayed once again at La Concha Resort which showed only minor vegetation and roof damage from Hurricane Fausto. La Concho now runs it's own diving operation as part of the new Cortez Club. We decided to try this in lieu of the Aguilar Brother's operation (Baja Diving & Service) we'd used previously. The first day saw a total of about eleven divers - nine from the Sea Diver contingent - on a 32 foot 12 knot fairly new cruiser. The dive sites were the inevitable Los Islotes (Sea Lion Colony) and slightly north to El Bahito, a smaller flatter version of El Bajo (The Sea Mount). Both dives fell into the O.K. but not great category, with visibility in the 30-50 foot range and water temperature about 80°F. El Bahito was endowed with many varieties of fish.

The second day we had thirteen divers, including two PADI advanced divers-in-training and for some reason we switched to a 40 foot 9 knot trawler poorly rigged for diving. We arrived at El Bajo 3 hours and 20 minutes after leaving the dock. Too LONG!!! Initially we thought we had great, even fantastic visibility, just the stuff for full viewing of the schooling hammerheads at the north pinnacle. Due to other boat traffic and our late arrival we were anchored on the central pinnacle requiring a fairly healthy swim into a mild current to reach the north pinnacle. Visibility decreased noticeably as we swam north eventually degenerating to 20-30 feet or so. Hammerhead sightings were made but no major schools. Back to the boat for an interminable (2 hour) mandated surface interval.

For the second dive, most other boats had left and we planned a drift dive from the pinnacles. So here's the plan for AP and KD and DP and TP - drift on the surface towards the north pinnacle, dive, find the schools, and drift down current until we clear the pinnacles, surface and wait for pick-up. Right!!! We drifted in what looked like the right direction, dived, missed just about everything and finished up in deep water. DP and TP attempted a 'recovery', AP and KD (being 'much' wiser!) decided to just drift and surface slowly. Once on the surface the picture became much clearer. The boat was one hell of a long way away, still anchored with the two students on the step, just starting their dive. They were on the step of at least 10 minutes!! Now we hear voices "nearby". DP and TP were on the surface 100 yards further away from the pinnacles than we were but just as far from the boat. So much for a 'recovery'. We grouped up and checked to see if anyone was smart enough to have brought any beer along ... and waited ... and waited ... and waited. Some 45-50 minutes later we were picked-up. As KD said, "...lots of **DRIFT** not much DIVE"!!

The ride back to La Paz was about 3 hours and 15 minutes, making for a V-E-R-Y long day (11 hours) for not much diving. The folks in Cortez Club were friendly, very helpful and spoke excellent English - they should have as they were nearly all British!! We collectively decided next year we will only go (probably with the Aguilars) on a fast boat, with just "us guys" so we can get there, dive hardy, and get out of there. May cost a little more but it'll be worth it!!!

As planned our transfer vans - both nearly new and fully air conditioned - arrived at 1:00 PM on Friday to take eight of us to Punta Pescadero. We arrived some two and a half hours later at the Hotel Punta Pescadero. Nice, real nice!! Large ocean front rooms, pool, patios (including open air dinner on the upper patio) all on the edges of the bluffs, deserted beaches, and ten people counting the eight of us, in residence!! This did not suck. It took four of us about 15 minutes to decide this was MAJOR kick back, diving be damned!! DP checked into the diving, which was not outstanding locally. One needed to boat to Cabo Pulma to the south or Isla Cerralvo to the north. Too complicated, as the boats were several miles further south. Beach diving and/or snorkeling was O.K. and weights and tanks were available at the hotel. In addition the hotel had both a one-man and two-man ocean

kayak and a quasi-rowboat available free for the guests for those so inclined. For most of us pool and beach duty was the daily order, soaking up mucho Mexican sun and tequila and flopping into the pool or The Sea to cool off. Man...did we relax!!! Monday came all too soon. Back to the La Paz airport for our flight back to reality.

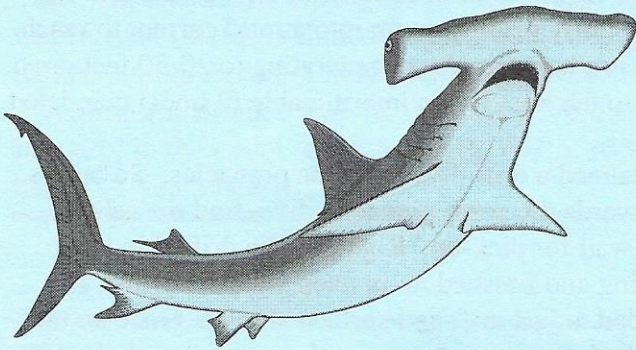
We learned a lot - most of us would not hesitate to return to either La Paz and/or Punta Pescadero. But FAST boats for diving!!

A.P.



BAJA ANNUAL.....FROM ANOTHER PERSPECTIVE...

Diving in La Paz, Baja, Mexico with The Sea Divers was a very good experience. Martin S. and I signed up for the La Paz portion only of The Sea Diver trip. We spent three nights and four days in La Paz. The rest of the group went on to Punta Pescadero for another few days. We did two days of diving with two dives per day. The first day we took the boat to Seal Island to check out the sea lions. Funny, how people still confuse seals with sea lions. Anyway, they were sea lions. When we first jumped in there was a pleasant surprise...namely, warm water! I made my dives with a 2mm surf suit and it was nice to have the freedom of movement compared to my cold water wet suit. There were some nice shells and quite a few very nice green morays amongst the rocks. Some of the fish were brilliantly colored. They looked like a variant of a parrot fish. We had a British dive master. He took us on an underwater tour around the island. It was a very pleasant dive. The visibility was 60-70 feet. There was a very playful female sea lion with her pups zooming about. Joe G. and I really had fun with her doing a kind of ballet performing loops and rolls as she zoomed around us. Then, the giant "big daddy" male came gliding past us. Man, he was really big and barking underwater all the way. I think he was jealous of us and wanted to let us know who was boss. This was a time when I really wished I had an underwater video camera.

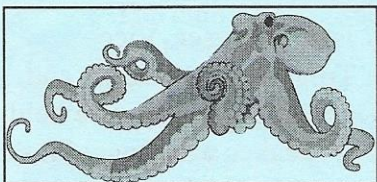


The second day we took another boat out to the sea mount, a known habitat for hammerhead sharks. Before we dropped anchor the dive master had separated us into two groups. Martin S. and I were to be in the first group and dive with the Mexican dive master, Juan Carlos. We were busily suiting up when someone said there's a shark over there! I looked up as I slipped into my wet suit and saw sure enough the shape and dorsal fin on the smooth surface of the water. WOW! I'm going to jump in there?! Am I crazy? Did you see that? Next thing you know we were in the water.

The water from the surface looked like it was going to be 100 feet of visibility but it turned out to be maybe 25 feet at best and kinda cloudy. We followed the anchor line down and then followed Juan Carlos in a semi-circular route. Then had told us if we wanted to see the sharks we would have to chase them and really fin after them to get a good look. Juan Carlos was waving his hands for us to follow and we soon were all three closing in on the creatures. He had seen them but so far we hadn't. Then out of the ghostly murk, we saw two BIG fifteen foot and fat hammerhead sharks. I saw Martin S. when he first caught sight of them and watched him blow out a few big bubbles when he saw them. We were at 105 feet and I told myself to watch my air consumption because my own breathing rate also increased when I saw them. I could see the sharks moving to the left and to the right I saw Allen P. and Kathy D. with the second group of divers. They could not see the sharks but they were very near. If they were just five feet closer they would have seen the hammerheads. We did a safety stop at 20 feet and then we returned to the boat. When the other divers came back on board, we were surprised no one else had seen the sharks.

After having lunch on board, we made our second outstanding dive. I had gotten to know the skipper and he told me the sea mount was directly North of our anchor. This time I followed my compass course North and my two dive buddies followed me. One we made the sea mount at 80 feet we changed course to the North East right into the current and that's where we found them. Again, here we are chasing these schooling great creatures. We had to kick after them. They were below us and at the same level. How many were there? It's really hard to say. I couldn't count them. If I said one hundred it could be a true statement. The little ones were as big as I am and all the rest were as big and fat as the ones we saw on the first dive. Chasing one I got probably as close as five feet from him and looking at his eyeball I gave out an exhaust into my mouthpiece and he turned the other way. There were lots of sharks swimming wing-on-wing just like a squadron of fighter jets. We then made our ascent and as we came up we then found ourselves in about 1000 tuna zooming all over us as their school passed by. They were about three feet long. We then made another safety stop at 20 feet until our computers said it was safe to surface. I have to admit I had never seen a large shark before, let alone so many. I wasn't really afraid, when you have them in sight, it is just simply thrilling.

Mike B.



Dear
Krabby

Dear Krabby,

It seems to me that the engine alone on the dive boats I've been on is heavy enough so that it should sink. If that's true how do you make a boat float?

Archimedes

Dear Archie

Well, first you take a couple scoops of ice cream....just kidding. Really it's pretty basic, if you understand how a multi-ton jumbo jet can be supported by the thin rarefied air in the upper atmosphere. Once you understand that, it's simple! The same principle applies only it's completely different. It doesn't have to do with lift and pressure, it has to do with weight and displacement. Other than that the concepts are identical. So it's easy to comprehend how a little dive boat can be supported by something as thick as water. Any more questions?

Dear Krabby,

Why do most experienced divers seem to use dive computers? In my certification class they only teach us how to use some obscure tables printed on little plastic cards.

Einstein

Dear Pythagorous,

There are two reasons why most experienced divers have dive computers:

1. Most divers are guys. Gadgets are 'guy things'. Since computers qualify as gadgets, guys just HAVE to HAVE them and
2. After breathing compressed air for a period of time and cycling and recycling nitrogen through their bodies, the brain cells of experienced divers have a tendency to atrophy. Consequently, they no longer have the 4th Grade math skills required to perform the table based calculations.

SCUPUTER

THE ONLY THING DIFFICULT ABOUT US IS OUR NAME.

THE SCUPUTER is the world's first scuba computer that keeps track of EVERYTHING imaginable. Like most diving computers, it keeps track of your depth, time and air statistics, but the similarities stop there.

For instance, ever wondered how many times you pee'd during a dive? SCUPUTER has a special sensing device that detects how many times your wetsuit suddenly heated up. Not only that, when you return to the boat, SCUPUTER will even tell you the highest temperature your wetsuit went up to during the course of the dive. Great for on-board comparisons!

Instructors will find SCUPUTER a fascinating teaching aid. At the touch of a button, it'll measure your students' blood pressure, enabling you to know for certain whether they're really comfortable enough in the water to earn their C-cards!

In the event you get sick underwater, SCUPUTER can tell you exactly what you regurgitated, including number of calories. SCUPUTER also has numerous built-in sensors for honing in on and avoiding certain dangerous marine creatures such as arrow crabs. SCUPUTER can do a thousand different things. To learn more, write today for our free brochure.

P.O. Box 1034
Silicon Valley, CA

SCUPUTER*

*Our name may be hard, but we're easy.

AMERICAN DIVING "CARD"

We introduced the "DIVER'S CARD" in January this year. The benefits of "The CARD" are many and varied including:

- ☺ Free airfills (4 tanks per day)
- ☺ 10% discount on local boat trips, classes and rental equipment
- ☺ 20% discount on repairs, hydros, and VIP's
- ☺ 2% additional discount over the standard store discount
- ☺ 3% discount on international travel

Here's the details:

- * Price: \$30.00 (same as 12 airfills)
- * Expiration date: 12/31/XX
- * Get the "DIVER'S CARD" today and get more bang for your buck.



Diver
Card

Name: _____

Cust. No. _____ Card No. _____

Send your questions to 'Dear Krabby', c/o The Sea Divers, P.O. Box 2415, Redondo Beach, CA 90278

JUST 15 YEARS AGO...

The club President was Betty Trenberth, Vice President Bob Ravius, Treasurer Cathy Mueller, and Secretary Don Andree. The General Meetings were held at Lococo's and the November 1981 Executive Meeting was at the home of Terri Straub our boat dive reservationist. The boat dive was on the *Blue Sea* to Catalina at \$24 non-inclusive. The beach dive was a Leo Carrillo Beach campout and dive over a three day weekend. The club had 218 members - not sure how many were paid members! The 1982 Boat Dive Schedule had just been announced and included *Wild Wave*, *Peace*, *Atlantis*, *Charisma*, *Blue Sea*, and *Truth* - quite the flotilla. The Executive minutes included comments on low balance in the treasury, boat no-pay-no-shows, divemaster insurance and the disposition of club property in the event we disbanded. We're still here 15+ years later!!!

JUST 25 YEARS AGO...

The club President was Jack Trageser, Vice-President Tony Savino, Treasurer Ted Gecks and Secretary Alex Saha. General Meetings were held at Lococo's and the guest speaker was Roger Hess who at that time owned the *Maverick* and is now the owner of Charisma Charters. There were two boat dives scheduled, the *Maverick* to Cortes Bank at \$20 non-inclusive and the *Maverick* to Santa Barbara Island at \$15 non-inclusive. Abalone Cove was the beach dive spot for the month. The club was heading up the kelp restoration project off Palos Verdes near Point Vicente which was ongoing for some period of time. The Frogs were the junior or underage element of the club for children under 12 and was intended to familiarize kids with the world of SCUBA and snorkeling. The Frogs newsletter was called 'The Lilly Pad'. Club membership was just under 170.

Reprinted from 'Sport Diver' December 1996

DIVE SITES

You can really dive into the Internet and other online services to find places of interest on scuba diving. Here are a few to get you started.

Oscar Knows at <http://www.oscar-knows.com> offers colorful, clear graphics and pages, and an easy-to-use home page. Sections include vacations, equipment and live-aboards.

Cyber Diver at <http://www.cyberdiver.com.au> gives travelers a little more exotic dive destinations along with colorful pictures of the Pacific Ocean area. It also offers information on dive resorts in places like Australia, Fiji, Hawaii and Tonga, plus info on live-aboards.

Scuba Central at <http://www.scuba-central.com> gives its list of top 50 dive sites, plus other chat, BBs and a shopping sections.

Outdoor Sports & Travel Directory at http://ecotravel.com/activities/scuba_diving/ lists tour companies, gear manufacturers, maps and books.

Travel Base at <http://www.travelbase.com/activities/scuba/> has areas for dive shops, excursions, training and photography.

If you're interested in dive spots at Club Med try <http://www.clubmed.com/village/columbus/quicktime.html>. It lists Club Med resorts that offer diving and

also has pictures of the different resorts.

If you wish to find an assortment of dive-related links and sites, try Dive Site at <http://touristguide.com/scuba.html>.

Some of these Web sites also give e-mail and snail-mail addresses to get more information as well as links to the airlines. If you'd like to contact other divers, go to <http://aixdevi.ais.msu.edu/~manns/divers.html> for a list of e-mail addresses. Other related Web addresses include:

Divers Alert Network, <http://www.dan.ycg.org>

Scuba School International, <http://www.ssiusa.com>

YMCA Scuba Program, <http://www.web.com/csripts/-ymca/ymca.html>

PADI, <http://www.padi.com>

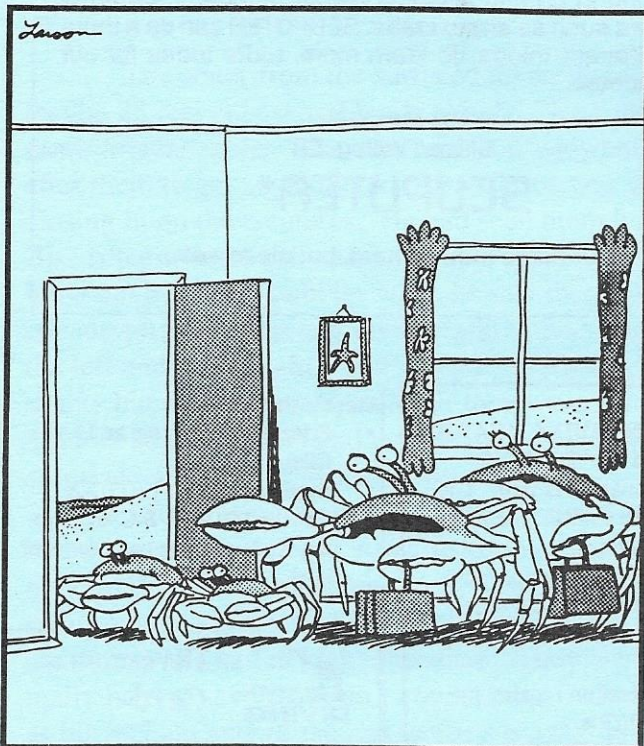
NAUI, <http://www.nauai.org/>

DEMA, <http://www.dema.com>

IANTD, <http://www.iantd.com>

The major online services also have dive sites: CompuServe's Scuba Forum; American Online's Scuba Forum; Prodigy's combination of its own service and the Web (<http://antares.prodigy.com/igroups/score/scubacoi.htm>).

Some newsgroups on the Net where divers can talk with other divers include rec.scuba, rec.scuba.equipment and rec.scuba.locations. — Jill Barnes



"We're *not* going to the mountains, so shut up and let's go! ... Most kids would count their lucky stars that every vacation their folks took 'em to the beach!"

ROAD TRIP: LA BUFADORA - BAJA CALIFORNIA

8-10 November 1996

The Sea Divers are getting ready to make a "Run for the Border" to La Bufadora, Baja, Mexico. If you're looking for an inexpensive way to get away from the city and get back to the elements, then this is an opportunity you won't want to miss. Note that this is considered an advanced dive. The Sea Divers are only acting as a focal point to get a group of interested individuals to go. There will be no divemasters. Each individual diver is responsible for his own her own dive safety, monitoring of depths, bottom times etc.

Diving in La Bufadora Bay and the nearby pinnacles is magnifico! The bay has a large kelp bed with depths ranging from shallow to 80 feet. There are smaller pinnacles inside the bay which offer an interesting assortment of marine life. It has often been compared to that of Monterey Bay. The richness of the area is due to a cold water upwelling which makes the water temperature an average cool 55°. Beach diving can be accessed from several areas and usually is better in the morning for an easy entry and exit. There is even an underwater arch in the bay that can fit five divers side by side. The outer pinnacles are where the diver will find the larger scallops and fish. Most of these pinnacles drop to over 100 feet and are subject to heavy surge. This is an advanced dive. There are a few Mexican pangas that can be rented with a guide to make these outer dives. They make two runs a day and seating is limited so sign up at the dive shop as soon as you arrive. The ocean is large and the pangas are small, so you may wish to bring a motion sickness patch or some Bonine tablets. The dive shop by the campground is very limited for rental gear, so it is advised you bring all of your gear (including tanks) plus the extra straps, O-rings, etc. Air fills are available.

Camping is approximately \$12 per day for two people. (There is no need to exchange your money into pesos, U.S. dollars are accepted everywhere.) There is no electricity or water at the campsite and toilets are of the non-flush variety. You will need to bring all your food, ice, water, cooking utensils, solar shower, fuel, toilet paper, flashlights, etc. with you. (Yes, folks, this is really roughing it!) The ground is not soft, so bring plenty of padding. There are some good restaurants just up the hill, but other than that, the 'town' consists of a row of souvenir stands.

After a muy bueno morning of diving, you may wish to snorkel, fish, hike, sun bathe, shop, explore the environs, take a trip to Ensenada, the 'The Blowhole', roam the tide pools, catch some R&R, or even dive some more.

Directions are as follows. From Los Angeles to La Bufadora it takes approximately 4-1/2 hours excluding stops. Take the 405 freeway to San Diego and continue on the 805 to avoid downtown San Diego. The exit before the border is San Ysidro Blvd. This is a good spot to top off the gas tank and purchase Mexican car insurance if not done previously in L.A. (INSURANCE IS REQUIRED -- cars without are subject to confiscation.) Continuing south on the freeway into Mexico be prepared to stop at the border. Proof of Citizenship is a birth certificate or certified copy thereof (NOT a photocopy), naturalization papers, or a passport (your best option). The American Border Patrol are the people most likely to question your citizenship upon returning to the U.S.

Going through Tijuana can be confusing. Follow the signs to Ensenada and Rosarita Beach to get on the correct road (Hwy. Mexico 1D). Be aware that as you go through TJ you will come to a spot where the road to Ensenada hugs the right. Then you have to veer to the left at the next sign to complete a road loop to town. Between TJ and the town of Ensenada, the roads are paved and have 3 toll stops. All toll stops will take and make change with U.S. Dollars. The price usually ranges under \$4.00 per toll. When passing the turnoff for Tecate, just before Ensenada, you will soon come to where the road divides into two entrances into the town. Take the road to the right (Ensenada Centro) for the easiest route through town.

From the south end of Ensenada to the La Bufadora turnoff in Manadero (the road will make a RIGHT TURN to the La Bufadora Peninsula) is 9 miles. The turnoff is marked by a smaller sign on the right side of the road. From this turnoff to the campsite is 13 miles. The road is paved but does have a lot of loose gravel and small holes. When you finally get to the tip of the peninsula, the road will turn to the left and wind on down into town. You will see a dive shop sign with an arrow pointing left next to a restaurant. Make a left turn by the restaurant down a dirt road. The blue-green house on the left is where you pay for your campsite. If you will be traveling at night it is wise to have a good flashlight, as Mexican road signs are non-reflective. For further information, or prices call Kathy Kalohi at (310) 719-1816.



UNDERWATER PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST AND POTLUCK

SUNDAY
27 OCTOBER 1996
WHITE POINT

Test your underwater dexterity at the quasi-annual Pumpkin Carving Contest being held on Sunday 27 October, at White Point (Issei Cove). The fun will begin at 10:00 AM and all entries must be on display for judging by 1:00 PM. The grand prize is a free single day all inclusive boat dive on a Sea Diver club charter. In order to help the club treasury, an entry fee of \$5.00 will be requested. A potluck will follow the contest. The Sea Divers will provide snacks, hot dogs, and drinks. Family and friends are welcome. Please plan to bring a potluck dish of your choice to add to the post diving activities. Hope to see you there. Any questions, please contact Joe Kalohi at (310) 719-1816. In order to plan refreshments for the event, please let Joe know if you'll be attending and how many will be in your group.

GET A LUBE JOB!

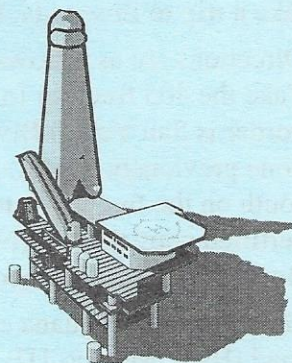
Put an end to wetsuit struggles forever. Wetsuit Lube enables you to slide your suit on in just seconds, without tugging, pulling, struggling. Soothing lotion, made of whale blubber, ends chafing, too. Works like suntan oil—just smooth it over bare skin, and presto, glide into your wetsuit. Octopus suction cups are sold separately as footwear to prevent on-board slippage. Wetsuit Lube rinses off in just 20 washings. Contact The Lube Factory, 50021 Mechanic Freeway, Los Angeles, California.

COLLEGE OF OCEANEERING OPEN HOUSE & TOUR

23 November 1996

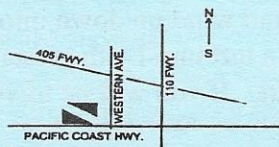
For our October program we had Frank Moir of the College of Oceaneering in Wilmington, California as the Program Speaker. He told us many interesting tales of the trials, tribulations and experiences of commercial divers. As a result of the interest generated, we are organizing a tour of his facility. This combined tour/open house will last the entire day of Saturday November 23rd. It will include a chance to try one or more of the commercial diving 'helmets' in their pool and to do a simulated dive to 150-160 feet in a hyperbaric chamber. Lunch and a T-shirt are also included. The fee for the tour is \$50. I have talked to several people that have gone on this tour in the past and they all said it is well worth the expense. The first 20 PAID individuals will be to attend this event. If more than 20 people are interested, we will schedule another tour in the future. Checks should be made payable to "The Sea Divers" and mailed to P.O. Box 2415, Redondo Beach, CA 90278.

For any additional information contact myself, Kathy Dacey. My phone numbers are (310) 814-6131 (days), (310) 540-1044 (eves/weekends), (310) 812-9976 (Fax) or e-mail me at kathy.dacey@trw.com.



1996 BEACH DIVE SCHEDULE

DAY	DATE	WHERE	FEATURE	KEY CONTACT
SUN	20 OCT	REDONDO BEACH	5TH KING HARBOR CLEAN-UP	NANCY COOK
SUN	27 OCT	WHITE POINT	PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST	JOE KALOHI
FRI-SUN	8-10 NOV	LA BUFADORA, BAJA	DIVING, SUN, AND FUN	KATHY KALOHI



AMERICAN DIVING is a full service scuba diving facility. Our friendly and knowledgeable staff has been committed to excellence in customer service for more than 30 years. Our education department offers quality diving courses sponsored by NAUI (National Association of Underwater Instructors), an internationally recognized diver training organization. Our instructors offer courses at all levels from Openwater I through Assistant Instructor, plus a variety of Specialty Courses are available either at a group rate or by private instruction. We also offer local and international dive travel and can assist you in planning your adventures from day trips to the local islands to your wildest diving fantasy.

1996/1997 BOAT DIVE SCHEDULE

DIVE	DAY(S)	DATE(S)	DESTINATION	PRICE*	BOAT	LOCATION
96-9	SAT/SUN	2/3 NOV	CORTES BANK	\$195	ENCORE	22ND STREET
96-10	SAT/SUN	30 NOV/1 DEC	SAN MIGUEL PASSAGE/SANTA ROSA	\$180	PEACE	VENTURA MARINA
97-1	SUN	2 FEB	SAN CLEMENTE (BACKSIDE)	\$80	CHARISMA	22ND STREET
97-2	SAT	TBD MAR	SAN NICOLAS	TBD	TBD	TBD
97-3	SAT	12 APR	FARNSWORTH BANKS	\$70	CHARISMA	22ND STREET
97-C9	WED	7 MAY	CHAMBER DAY 9 / CATALINA	\$65*	CHARISMA	22ND STREET
97-4	FRI/SAT	9/10 MAY	SAN MIGUEL	\$180	PEACE	VENTURA MARINA
97-5	SAT	TBD JUNE	SANTA BARBARA	TBD	TBD	TBD
97-6	FRI/SAT	25/26 JULY	BEGG ROCK/SAN NICOLAS	\$185	CHARISMA	22ND STREET
97-SB	SUN	17 AUG	PALOS VERDES	\$20*	(Small Boats)	KING HARBOR
97-7	FRI/SAT	12/13 SEPT	RICHARDSON'S/WILSON ROCK	\$180	PEACE	VENTURA MARINA
97-8	SUN	TBD OCT	SAN NICOLAS	TBD	TBD	TBD
97-9	SAT/SUN	1/2 NOV	CORTES BANK	\$195	CHARISMA	22ND STREET
97-10	SAT/SUN	29/30 NOV	SAN MIGUEL PASSAGE	\$180	PEACE	VENTURA MARINA

*Prices are all inclusive (air, food, and beverages). Non-members add \$10 for single day and \$15 for two-day dives.
Dives 97-C9 and 97-SB do not include air, food, and beverages.

Charisma - 22nd Street Landing

South on Harbor freeway, left on Gaffey, left on 22nd Street, down the hill and park in designated areas.

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 across Harbor Drive, go to the left onto Spinnaker Drive. Look for Milano's Italian Restaurant and turn right into the parking area. If you get to the end of Spinnaker, turn around and take the second left. Park adjacent to the berth (Slip #20) to unload, then park overnight in the last row adjacent to Spinnaker Drive.

DIVE BOAT POLICY

A club member may, but is not required to, have a boat deposit on file with the club. A club member may make a reservation on an upcoming dive as follows:

- A) Unconfirmed reservations may be made for any boat dive at any time. To confirm a reservation, payment in full must be received.
- B) For single day dives, divers holding an unconfirmed reservation will be called 3 weeks prior to the dive and advised that payment in full is required no later than 15 days prior to the dive to be confirmed. Dive boat deposits will be considered as payment in full.
- C) For two day dives, divers holding unconfirmed reservations will be called 5 weeks prior to the dive and advised that payment in full is required no later than 30 days prior to the dive to be confirmed. Dive boat deposits may be used as part of the payment in full.
- D) If payment in full is not received by the deadline, the diver may be replaced by a wait listed diver who has paid in full.

Any reservation may be cancelled two weeks prior to a dive with a full refund. Cancellations will not be accepted within two weeks prior to the dive unless a diver holding a reservation can sell or transfer their reservation to another qualified diver. The dive reservationist will assist in this process, but is not responsible for providing 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.

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 additional dives until he has paid the club for the first 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. Only club members of The Sea Divers and members of other selected clubs may make boat dive reservations prior to one month before a scheduled boat dive. Partial refunds from single day boats which do not make the advertised dive location will be passed on to members who request them within two weeks.

BOAT DIVE RESERVATION FORM

DIVE DATE: _____ DESTINATION: _____

NAME OF DIVER(S): _____

PHONE (DAY): [] _____ (EVE) [] _____ COST OF DIVE \$ _____

MEMBER [] YES [] NO DATE OF LAST DIVE* : _____

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

THE SEA DIVERS
P.O. Box 2415
Redondo Beach, CA 90278
(310) 719-1816

* Please include date of last dive for each diver.

CALENDAR

NOVEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	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

November 2-3	Boat Dive: Cortes Bank - <i>ENCORE</i>
November 5	General Meeting - 7 PM - Cathy's Deli
November 8-10	Beach Dive: La Bufadora, Baja
November 14	Executive Meeting - 7 PM - Roberto Al Mare
November 23	Chamber Dive: College of Oceaneering, Wilmington
November 30/December 1	Boat Dive: San Miguel Passage/Santa Rosa - <i>PEACE</i>

DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	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				

November 30/December 1	Boat Dive: San Miguel Passage/Santa Rosa - <i>PEACE</i>
December 3	General Meeting - 7 PM - Cathy's Deli
December 12	Executive Meeting - 7 PM - Roberto Al Mare

IN THIS ISSUE!!!!

- Two outstanding two day (Sat/Sun) dive deals!!
- Baja Adventures!!
- Report from Richardson's!!
- 1997 Boat Dive Schedule
- ...and MORE!!

THE SEA DIVERS
 P.O. BOX 2415
 REDONDO BEACH, CA 90278

FIRST CLASS MAIL
 ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

