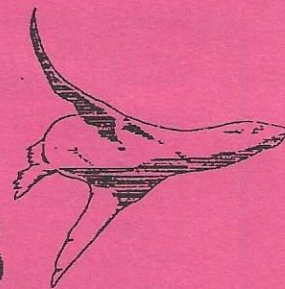


# THE SEA DIVERS



*IN AFFILIATION WITH AMERICAN DIVING*

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE VITALS...

On 10 November 1994 the Club held an Extraordinary Executive Meeting at Nelson's Landing (now Roberto Al Mare's) at which the small number of 1994 Executives and about 20 invited other club members struggled with how to keep our Club alive. The treasury was at zero (or worse!), support for our activities, especially dive boat charters was ugly at best and there was about four or five of us working fourteen Executive positions! Fortunately everyone dived in (no pun intended) and not only did we survive but as I write this on 10 November 1997, just three years later, the treasury is holding between \$2500 and \$3000, support for our dive boat charters is strong and I've been fortunate to have a great and fairly stable Executive Committee during the past three years. Our only negative is that club membership has been fairly static at 100-120, however that is significantly mitigated by the fact that a higher percentage of our members are active and support most of our charters. In summary, as we reach the end of 1997, we are a healthy club and plan to keep it that way!!

A.P



## December Entertainment - BARBARA LYTER

Barbara Lyter, who is the primary divemaster for our trips on the Great Escape, will be our program presenter at the December General Meeting.

Barbara is going to give us a full view of the Catalina Hyperbaric Chamber support and activities. She will cover everything from how to become a volunteer "chamber maid" through the physiology of divers recovering from dive related accidents and how not to be there!!! Most of the experienced club members have either visited (intentional tours!!) the chamber or have heard of it's workings but Barbara's presentation is good solid information for both beginners and experienced divers. Come on out to see and hear Barbara's view of it all!

The next General Meeting is at Round Table Pizza on Tuesday 2 December 1997 starting at 7:00 PM.



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"Had any luck?"

SINCE 1965  
**DECEMBER 1997 ISSUE**  
Volume 97, Issue 12



## EXECUTIVE DIRECTORY

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>DAY PHONE</u>	<u>EVENING PHONE</u>	<u>FAX</u>
PRESIDENT	ALLEN PARKER	813-2955	N/A	814-5067
VICE PRESIDENT	KATHY DACEY	814-6131	540-1044	812-9976
SECRETARY	MICHAEL BORDEN	814-4055	984-9145	814-5067
TREASURER	(OPEN)			
DIVING OFFICER	JOHN MOWREY	809-4411, X2453	370-1724	809-3568
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR	CAROLYN ROUTLEDGE	813-5047	372-8376	813-8596
BOAT DIVE CHAIR	JOHN TADLOCK	N/A	714-645-1195	N/A
BEACH DIVE CHAIR	BILL GARRETT	813-2862	530-2944	N/A
BOAT DIVE RESERVATIONIST	KATHY KALOHI	N/A	719-1816	N/A
PROGRAM CHAIR	(OPEN)			
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	KATHY DACEY	814-6131	540-1044	812-9976
HOSPITALITY CHAIR	KATHLEEN TADLOCK	648-7036	714-645-1195	N/A
GLACD REPRESENTATIVE	PHIL BERGERON	813-0511	379-0972	N/A

### WRITING FOR THE SEA DIVERS NEWSLETTER

If you would like to write an article for the newsletter or you have an idea to improve it, please write to Editor Kathy Dacey, c/o The Sea Divers, P.O. Box 2415, Redondo Beach, CA 90278, or call me at the above numbers. I am always in need of Lessons Learned articles and new graphics or cartoons. Inputs should be typed, but can be handwritten (not responsible for errors caused by illegible handwriting). Inputs may also be given to me via floppy media in any of the major word processing program formats or e-mailed to me at kathy.dacey@trw.com. Permission is given to reproduce in whole or in part. Please credit the author and/or The Sea Divers Newsletter.

## GENERAL MEETING

Held at 7:00 PM the first Tuesday of every month. A no-host social half-hour precedes the meeting from 6:30 to 7:00 PM and a feature presentation follows the business portion of the meeting. The meetings are held at Round Table Pizza, 4330 Redondo Beach Blvd., (one block east of Hawthorne Blvd. in Ralphs/Savon Center) Torrance, California (310) 371-8009.

## EXECUTIVE MEETING

Held at 7:00 PM on Thursday the week following the General Meeting at Roberto Al Mare (formerly Nelson's Landing) at King Harbor (at the corner of Harbor and Beryl), across from the Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza.

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_  
HOME PHONE (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ WORK PHONE (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDITIONAL NAME (FAMILY MEMBERSHIP) \_\_\_\_\_  
EMERGENCY CONTACT \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
EMPLOYER \_\_\_\_\_  
CERT NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ TYPE [PADI, NAUI, ETC.] \_\_\_\_\_  
CERT DATE \_\_\_\_\_ LACC ADP \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
(or equivalent)  
NUMBER OF DIVES LOGGED \_\_\_\_\_ DATE OF LAST DIVE \_\_\_\_\_

Do you want your name on a dive buddy list? [ ] YES [ ] NO

Type of diving preferred: beach/boat/skin \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] SINGLE MEMBERSHIP \$18.00 (to 6/30/98)

[ ] FAMILY MEMBERSHIP\* \$27.00 (to 6/30/98)

\*(single household)

(Annual dues 1 July - 30 June are \$24 single/\$36 family and are prorated quarterly for new members)

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

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



## WESTWARD WE GO - HO HO HO!

29/30 Nov 1997 (Sat/Sun)

*PEACE*

**Members \$180**

(INCLUDES AIR, BEVERAGES AND GOURMET FOOD!) **Boarding: 7:00 PM (11/28)**

**Non-Members \$195**

**Departure: 1:00 AM (11/29)**

The final Sea Diver charter for 1997 is once more on the *Peace* out of Ventura Marina. The dive calendar has listed the dive for the San Miguel Passage, 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. Typically, if we can access the channel (Passage) San Miguel Island is within our reach. Although not noted as the greatest lobster spot in the world, San Miguel offers some of the best diving around. The pinnacles are always 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 excellent opportunities, for the photo/video/looky-loo divers, there are some of the best opportunities.

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 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" the last two years.

Bunks will be pre-assigned on a first paid basis. Call Kathy (Kalohi) at (310) 719-1816 for sign-up. GREAT DEAL, GREAT TRIP, MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOU!

### DIVE CONDITION REPORTS

Dive condition reports can be found in the weather section of the Los Angeles Times. Look down in the left corner for reports on the visibility in Avalon, Malibu, Laguna Beach and La Jolla Cove. You can call the following numbers for dive and surf reports:

Santa Barbara	805-962-7873
Ventura	805-644-8338
Malibu/Zuma	310-457-9701
Palos Verdes/Malaga Cove	310-379-8471
Redondo Beach	310-451-8761
Newport/Laguna	714-494-6573
La Jolla	619-221-8884

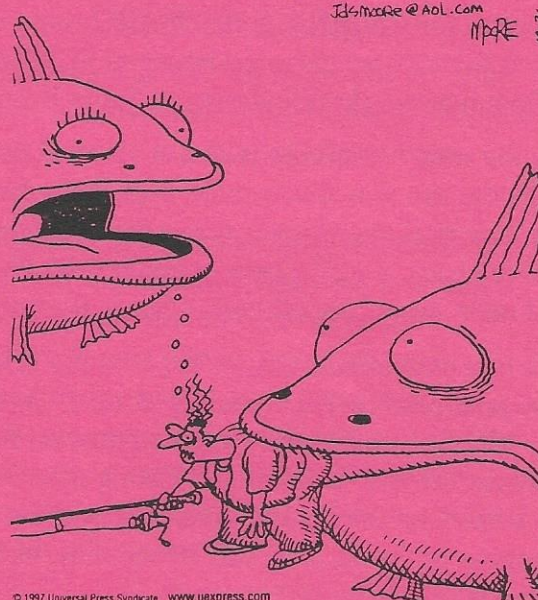
In addition, you can call for weather reports at 213-554-1212 and 213-823-1130.

### GALAPAGOS BOUND

By the time you read this, several club members will be on the *Galapagos Aggressor II* hopefully enjoying a great week of diving. Reports will be published in upcoming newsletters on the week's happenings.

Stay tuned, with John D., Pete K., Kathy D. and Allen P. in the group, there should be some amusing events to report!

### **IN THE BLEACHERS** By Steve Moore



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"Let him go, Howard. If you think I'm going to gut and clean that slimy thing, you can forget about it."

# Merry Christmas



## WRONG PLACE, RIGHT TIME

The Saturday/Sunday, 1/2 November 1997 dive was scheduled on the *Great Escape* to Cortes Banks. Not to be, as well over 9 foot swells were present in the outer waters precluding a run south. We arrived at San Nicolas Island in the early AM after a comfortable ride over. The aforementioned swells pretty much had both sides of the island screwed up, so diving was limited to the south side between the east end and about half way west. Not bad though if you didn't mind a little surge now and then! Water temperature was high with up to 70°F at the surface and no lower than 63°F at depth. In all we made five daytime dives with visibility anywhere from 50 feet to 30 feet. Depths were from 60 feet to shallow with surge at all depths and washing machine in less than 15 feet!! Bugs there were, not plentiful but enough to keep us interested!! Good size scallops were also available if one persisted. Huge sheephead were noticeable as were calicos, one black sea bass was also sighted. As diving was limited, we made an executive decision to fall back to Santa Barbara Island for night dives and our overnight stay.

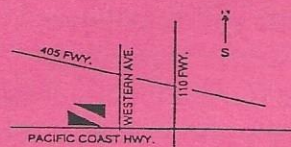
Tucked into Arch Cove kept us out of the ongoing swells and a hardy group made two night dives netting 8 or 10 bugs in the process. The rest of us watched the enhanced extended version of 'Das Boat' - the Germans lost again!! Sunday dawned unbelievable. The air was so clear that from the right vantage point all the islands were visible as was the mainland from Palos Verdes to Ventura. We attempted to dive off Webster Point. Huge, HUGE, long period swells precluded an anchorage and we retreated to the south east area where we found 80-100 foot visibility in 100 foot plus deep water. Bugs were fairly plentiful but typically in long crevices and cracks in the reefs, difficult to pull out!! We made five dives in roughly the same area moving a little shallower each dive. Bottom time was an issue to watch with most avid divers getting close to decompression after the first two dives. Great diving! All in all as a group we netted close to forty bugs, with the "prize" going to Kurt and Doris B. with fourteen. Dave G. who couldn't seem to make up his mind between SCUBA and skin diving managed to land two yellowtail including a 20 pounder while skin diving at Santa Barbara.

By the time we left the island at about 2:20 PM the ocean was flat calm and it was hot, hot, hot. Both days the sun was spectacular, especially for November, with visibility just awesome and somemore!! On the way back the skipper noted that we were cruising through 83°F water courtesy of El Nino I guess. We arrived back at 22<sup>nd</sup> Street at about 6:45 PM after a very satisfying trip under great weather. The swells did mess things up a little but Santa Barbara made up for it.

We had two notable entries for a booby prize. John D. dropped his pole spear as he entered the water. The pole plummeted vertically almost 100 feet through a group of descending divers just missing Kathy D. Nice shot John! He followed this, on the next dive, with a plummet of his own after forgetting to connect his B.C. inflator and hitting the 75 foot bottom in a cloud of sand. The second notable was Faisal H.'s entry on the second dive, first without his air turned on and then attempting to descend with his fins flapping in the air for a full 30 seconds, before finally releasing the air in his B.C. Nice going Faisal. It all adds to the fun of the trip!!!



**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.





## EARLY NOVEMBER QUOTES

- "A second air source is nothing but a maintenance problem."
- "My breakfast isn't sitting very well."
- "I lost my little hat."
- "It was surgy. I didn't know my legs could bend that way."
- "You disappeared when that first wave came through."
- "You two look so much alike I don't know which is which."
- "They told me to bring some fish for them, so I speared two sheephead..."
- "...Yeah, I used to take black abalone for the neighbor."
- "If you're going to have another baby then you're not done. You'll have to add a nursery."
- "I called 'ladies' and they ignored me!"
- "I'll probably fall asleep into my baked potato."
- "That's why they call it a fifth. You only get four drinks out of it and you wish you could get a fifth!"
- "I was really confused in Palm Springs. Here's this HUGE beach and no ocean!"
- "Perfect."
- "Right now I'm getting a lot of shit for drinking Beck's!"
- "You'd think with another 60 minutes the Germans would have won!"
- "Now THIS is a classic I can relate to."
- "Hey John, do you have an o-ring for a Bend-o-Matic?"
- "I can feel it going in...."
- "...It was better before I put it in, I think."
- "I've never sent a drink back for being too strong. I won't send a tank back that's too full."
- "Faisal's entry on the second dive almost won him the booby prize."

## JUST 5 YEARS AGO...

The club President was Allen Parker, Vice-President Kathy Dacey, Treasurer Kathi McNally, and Secretary Cathy Gale. The club General Meetings were at Round Table Pizza (first time around!) and the Executive Meetings at Shibaraku Restaurant (now Roberto Al Mare's!). The December boat dive was on the *Peace* to Santa Cruz Channel at \$170 all inclusive for the two days. Two items of interest were the *Cee Ray* had just plowed into the breakwater losing 10-12 feet of bow at approximately \$10,000 per foot and the *Charisma* (now *Great Escape*) was badly damaged in an arson induced fire. Damage to the sister boat *Encore* was mostly superficial. We had just completed the First King Harbor Underwater CleanUp and the club was barely surviving the downswing in the area. Obviously we made it!!

## ODE TO A HERO?!!

The following was written by one of the Blue Area sign-in personnel of the recent 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Redondo Beach King Harbor Underwater CleanUp.

"William Holzer bravely sacrificed limb to bring forth to the public attention criminal behavior on the part of dock H boaters illegally trapping lobster being savagely attacked by the feared giant sting ray. But only for alert and self sacrificing ham radio / rescue surface support, he was treated by paramedics and transported safely to medical treatment at hospital."

(Bill received the "Hero" award for the day).

*Editor's note: Bill, not the lobsters, was 'savagely attacked' and to the best of my knowledge still has all his limbs (none were sacrificed). The text was typed as written with no editorial corrections. One wonders what the Blue Area sign-in folks were into!!*



**CPSC, MARES AMERICA CORP.  
ANNOUNCE RECALL OF GUARDIAN  
DIVE COMPUTERS**

WASHINGTON, D. C. - In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), Mares America Corp. of Norwalk, Conn., is recalling about 1,200 dive computers used to determine dive depth, dive time and other automatic measurements during SCUBA diving. Guardian dive computers can fail to function when water leaks into the battery compartment during a dive. Also, the computer can malfunction by not automatically switching on during a dive or the computer control buttons on the computer can fail to operate properly. These failures could result in divers suffering decompression sickness, which can lead to significant injury.

Mares is aware of 45 incidents of the Guardian dive computer failing to operate properly. There have been no injuries or deaths reported involving the use of these dive computers.

Selected Mares dive shops sold the Guardian computers nationwide from January through August 1997 for about \$400.

Divers should stop using the Guardian dive computer immediately and return it to their Mares authorized dealer to receive a free replacement computer. For more information, contact Mares America Corp. toll free at (800) 874-3236 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, or call any other time and leave a message.

**PRODUCT SAFETY ALERT**

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has issued a statement advising of a potential hazard associated with flashlights exploding. In December 1992 and in January 1995 flashlights being used by firefighters exploded, slightly injuring the firefighter in the first incident and not injuring the firefighter in the second. Other reports of exploding flashlights have appeared in public safety literature.

Both explosions involved the Super SabreLight Submersible, Model 2000 series flashlight, manufactured by Pelican Products Inc., 23215 Early Ave., Torrance, CA 90505.

In order to protect themselves, divers or others using this and other flashlights are advised by the NIOSH to use the following precautions:

- Read and follow manufacturers' recommendations for product use.
- DO NOT mix batteries of different brands.
- DO NOT mix old and new batteries.
- DO NOT mix alkaline and non-alkaline batteries.
- DO NOT use damaged batteries.

NIOSH states further that it does not have sufficient data to believe that any one brand of flashlight, model or type of flashlight has a higher potential for explosion. The explosions are caused by an accumulation of hydrogen gas ( $H_2$ ), a product of the corrosion of the zinc electrode in the aqueous electrolyte of the battery. If sufficient  $H_2$  gas accumulates in battery compartments that are not adequately vented, such as in waterproof or submersible lights, the overpressure may rupture the battery container, causing an explosion.

More information is available on the World Wide Web at <http://www.cdc.gov.niosh/homepage.html> or by calling (800) 356-4674.





## 1997 / 1998 BOAT DIVE SCHEDULE

DIVE	DAY(S)	DATE(S)	DESTINATION	PRICE*	BOAT	LOCATION
97-10	SAT/SUN	29/30 NOV	SAN MIGUEL PASSAGE	\$180	PEACE	VENTURA MARINA
98-1	SUN	8 FEB	SANTA BARBARA / SUTIL	\$85	GREAT ESCAPE	22 <sup>ND</sup> STREET
98-2	SAT	14 MAR	SAN NICOLAS	\$95	GREAT ESCAPE	22 <sup>ND</sup> STREET
98-3	SAT	11 APR	SHIP ROCK/BLUE CAVERN/BIRD ROCK	\$70	GREAT ESCAPE	22 <sup>ND</sup> STREET
98-C10	WED	6 MAY	CHAMBER DAY 10 / CATALINA	\$65*	GREAT ESCAPE	22 <sup>ND</sup> STREET
98-4	FRI/SAT	8/9 MAY	SAN MIGUEL	\$180	PEACE	VENTURA MARINA
98-5	SAT	6 JUNE	SAN CLEMENTE - 9 FATHOM REEF & 4 ½ FATHOM SPOTS	\$85	GREAT ESCAPE	22 <sup>ND</sup> STREET
98-6	FRI/SAT	24/25 JULY	BEGG ROCK/SANTA BARBARA/FARNSWORTH BANKS	\$190	GREAT ESCAPE	22 <sup>ND</sup> STREET
98-7	SUN	16 AUG	OLYMPIC & STAR OF SCOTLAND WRECKS & PALOS VERDES	\$70	GREAT ESCAPE	22 <sup>ND</sup> STREET
98-8	FRI/SAT	11/12 SEPT	RICHARDSON'S/CASTLE/WILSON ROCKS	\$180	PEACE	VENTURA MARINA
98-9	SAT/SUN	31 OCT / 1 NOV	CORTES & TANNER BANKS	\$195	GREAT ESCAPE	22 <sup>ND</sup> STREET
98-10	SAT/SUN	28/29 NOV	SAN MIGUEL / SANTA ROSA	\$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. New members allowed one single day dive at approximately two-thirds of member price.

Dive 98-C10 does not include air, food, and beverages.

### Great Escape - 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 of the dive.

## 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 include date of last dive for each diver

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



## CALENDAR

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			

December 2  
December 11

General Meeting - 7 PM - Round Table Pizza  
Executive Meeting - 7 PM - Roberto Al Mare

JANUARY						
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

January 6  
January 15

General Meeting - 7 PM - Round Table Pizza  
Executive Meeting - 7 PM - Roberto Al Mare

### In this issue.....

- 100 foot visibility diving!!
- Product recall & safety alerts!!
- Ode to a Hero!!
- ...and more!!!

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

FIRST CLASS MAIL

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

