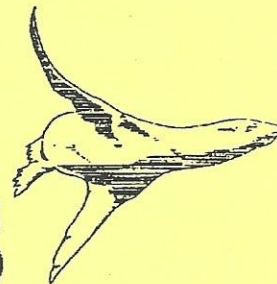


THE SEA DIVERS



IN AFFILIATION WITH AMERICAN DIVING

FROM THE EXECUTIVE CRYSTAL BALL...

Looking ahead to our new dive year, we anticipate another great year of diving and club events. We have modified our dive boat schedule in order to introduce some different diving scenarios. All the great dive spots are there along with at least one trip to each island. Other events include Chamber Day in May, the Bouillabaisse Bash in June, and the 7th King Harbor Underwater CleanUp in October. We will probably plan a trip abroad, for those interested and will continue to review our undersubscribed beach dive program for rejuvenation. On the Executive side we now meet every other month as the club is running quite well and doesn't seem to need monthly decisions!! Have a great year and be safe out there.

A.P

FEBRUARY ENTERTAINMENT **ANTARCTICA: ABOVE AND BELOW THE SEA ICE**

Join marine biologist Lin Craft as she explores and experiences the rigors and rewards of the great white continent, Antarctica, from the unique vantage point of a working scientist. Dive through six feet of ice to explore the fascinating life of the polar ocean floor and enjoy the unique wildlife of the world above water featuring seals, penguins, and killer whales. Discover the pristine beauty of this icy realm while exploring spectacular ice caves inside floating glaciers

Lin is a marine biologist who has dove all over the world for work and pleasure. She has logged more than 4500 dives in such diverse locations as Florida, the Bahamas, the Philippines, the Great Barrier Reef, California, Oregon, Washington, Newfoundland, eastern and western Caribbean, and Antarctica. She lived in the Caribbean for 9 years, 3 of which she spent teaching at the College of the Virgin Islands in St. Thomas. After leaving the islands, she returned for many summers to teach a Tropical Marine Biology and SCUBA course for high school students in St. Croix. Presently she works for MEC Analytical Systems, Inc. an environmental consulting firm located in Carlsbad.

Lin's skill as a photographer, both underwater and on land, has won her numerous awards. She is a judge and exhibitor in international photography salons and has presented numerous slide programs to groups of all backgrounds and ages. She is past president of the Southern California Association of Camera Clubs in San Diego, and in 1994 she was awarded that organization's highest honor by being made a Fellow of SCACC. She is also active in the Fallbrook Camera Club, in the town where she lives, and is currently serving as Vice President. She has been a member of both the Los Angeles and San Diego Underwater Photographic Societies. She is also a NAUI instructor.

The next Sea Diver General Meeting will be held on Tuesday February 3rd starting at 7:00 PM at Round Table Pizza in Hawthorne.

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	CURT BILLINGS	N/A	909-945-3431	N/A
PROGRAM CHAIR	(OPEN)			
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	KATHY DACEY	814-6131	540-1044	812-9976
HOSPITALITY CHAIR	KATHY KALOHI	N/A	719-1816	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 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 \$12.00 (to 6/30/96)
[] FAMILY MEMBERSHIP \$18.00 (to 6/30/96)

(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

BUG CITY

8 February 1997 (Sun)

SANTA BARBARA

GREAT ESCAPE

Members \$85

(All inclusive!)

Boarding: 8:00 PM (2/7)

Non-Members \$95

Departure: 2:00 AM (2/8)

New Members \$57

The first dive of our 1998 program is to Santa Barbara Island and Sutil Island. This lobster season Santa Barbara has proven to be the best spot in Southern Californian waters for legal size bugs. On our 1-2 November 1997 dive most of the bugs on board were from Santa Barbara. We continue our excellent relationship with the *Great Escape* and hope to have a great trip.

As most of you experienced divers know, Santa Barbara diving provides the very best in underwater topography, marine life, and generally high visibility. Sea lions abound and are always ready to "play". Black sea bass have been sighted on numerous occasions as have relatively large rays. The reefs are ideal for photography or just looking. Typically we will circumnavigate this relatively small island to pick off four or five choice spots, including one or two in the environs of Sutil Island.

For the game takers there are a variety of fish, scallops, and lobster as mentioned above. Diving conditions in February are usually pleasant and typically the ocean is cooperative. This dive is suitable for all skill levels. Beginners should check with the divemaster to ascertain the specifics of each dive. The *Great Escape* is one of the largest dive boats in the L.A. area and provides an extremely comfortable diving platform. The "verandah" (a.k.a. sun deck) also provides for sun and relaxation on the ride home early year weather permitting. Call Kathy (Kalohi) at (310) 719-1816 to sign up for this all inclusive trip on a great boat to one of the best islands. You may pre-select your stateroom / bunk on receipt of full payment. CALL NOW! We have chartered two-thirds of the boat which is typical for our 1998 schedule. As of this writing the Sea Diver allocation is about half full.

LOBSTER LAST CHANCE

14 March 1998 (Sat)

SAN NICOLAS

GREAT ESCAPE

Members \$95

(Includes Everything!)

Boarding: 8:00 PM (3/13)

Non-Members \$105

Departure: 11:00 PM (3/13)

New Members \$62

The 1997/98 lobster season is drawing to a close. The trip is on our 22nd Street boat *Great Escape*. We'll be searching once more for the elusive and wily bugs. We hope to get to the island in the early (still dark) timeframe to get in one night and three or four daylight dives. Those interested should bring fresh chem lights and at least one dive light. Abalone remain off limits so these are not for the taking this year and perhaps for years to come. Although the Big Bugs are not as plentiful, check out the front page picture and the inside letters in the January issue of CDN. There are some still there and we are due!!

For those of us that are not so lucky or skilled at the lobster stakes, fish provide a nice alternative with many different species to spear. Although not the prettiest underwater environment, San Nicolas can provide excellent opportunities for video or photography. The boat will depart at 11:00 p.m. on Friday. Diving around San Nicolas is suitable for all skill levels with ocean cooperation. Relative beginners should check with the divemaster on duty before making a deep or potentially difficult dive. Call Curt (Billings) at (909) 945-3431 for sign-ups and additional information. Bunks and staterooms will be preassigned on a first pay/space available basis. SAN NICOLAS IT IS...DON'T WAIT!

THE GALAPAGOS TRIP

PART II - BAGGAGE CRAP SHOOT TO WOLF AND DARWIN

Our first impressions of the *Galapagos Aggressor I* were very favorable. The boat was well appointed and maintained, sufficiently large for 13 (max 14) people, nice "suites", and a well stocked bar! Along with our seven associates, were two young brothers from Denmark, a solo diver from Houston and a "different" trio from the New York area. Kathy D. was the only (real!) female on board with the other twenty male crew and divers! After a briefing, on the basic rules of boat etiquette, Galapagos protection and *Aggressor* diving, we stashed our gear in Suite 4 - with no baggage it didn't take us long at all!

We left San Cristobal for a short eastward loop to a fully protected (calm) cove for the checkout dive. In essence this was for the divemasters to assess our basic diving skills, correct buoyancy and properly working dive gear. REAL basic stuff. Three notable events, however, occurred on this checkout. 1) Kathy D. and Allen P. didn't (no gear!), 2) the water temperature at 83°F or so, was too warm for full quarter inch wet suits, 3) Pete K. exited the water with a significant vision problem in his left eye. Surprisingly, to us, the boat returned to San Cristobal for most of the overnight.

Early AM on Friday the 21st saw us in moderately rough water north and slightly east of Seymour Island where one dive was to be made on a reef extending from "Shark Point" on the island. All dives are made from and to the Zodiacs, one slightly larger than the other. The dive was a drift dive, also typical, and the rubber duck drivers followed the bubbles, i.e. NO navigation required, only "rocks-on-the-left" or "rocks-on-the-right". In this case rocks-on-the-left drifting north!! The dive yielded sightings of several shark species and a few turtles. Visibility about 60 feet and water temperature at 82°F. Most divers had either gone to surf type suits, if they had them, or just the top of a farmer john with no hood or with the hood down! Pete K.'s eyed seemed a little better so he was diving.

Next on the plan was to take a shore trip to Isla Mosquero, while the *Aggressor* cruised over to Baltra Island to refuel and hopefully pick up our two errant bags. The shore trip of about three hours was hot. We viewed a myriad of Blue Footed Boobies, Frigate Birds, land and marine Iguana, and the ever present Sea Lions. We also saw one Red Iguana who was about sixty miles away from his proper home and thus entirely on the wrong island! At about the mid-point of the hike, the TAME Airlines 727 curved overhead, on its approach to the military airfield on Baltra Island, with or without our baggage. Nice touch!

About 2:00 PM the *Aggressor* returned to pick us up. OUR BAGS WERE THERE!!! Albeit dirty, tired, missing tags and obviously opened. The contents were intact and finally we fully joined the group. Retrieval of the bags was made by one of the divemasters, who had to ride a Navy bus to and from the base. Unfortunately, the bus had a head-on collision with an Air Force bus, killing the driver of the Air Force bus. The divemaster was not hurt, but will be the star witness, as a civilian, in the Ecuadorian Navy vs. Air Force hearings. And this was only our fourth day, what a trip so far!!

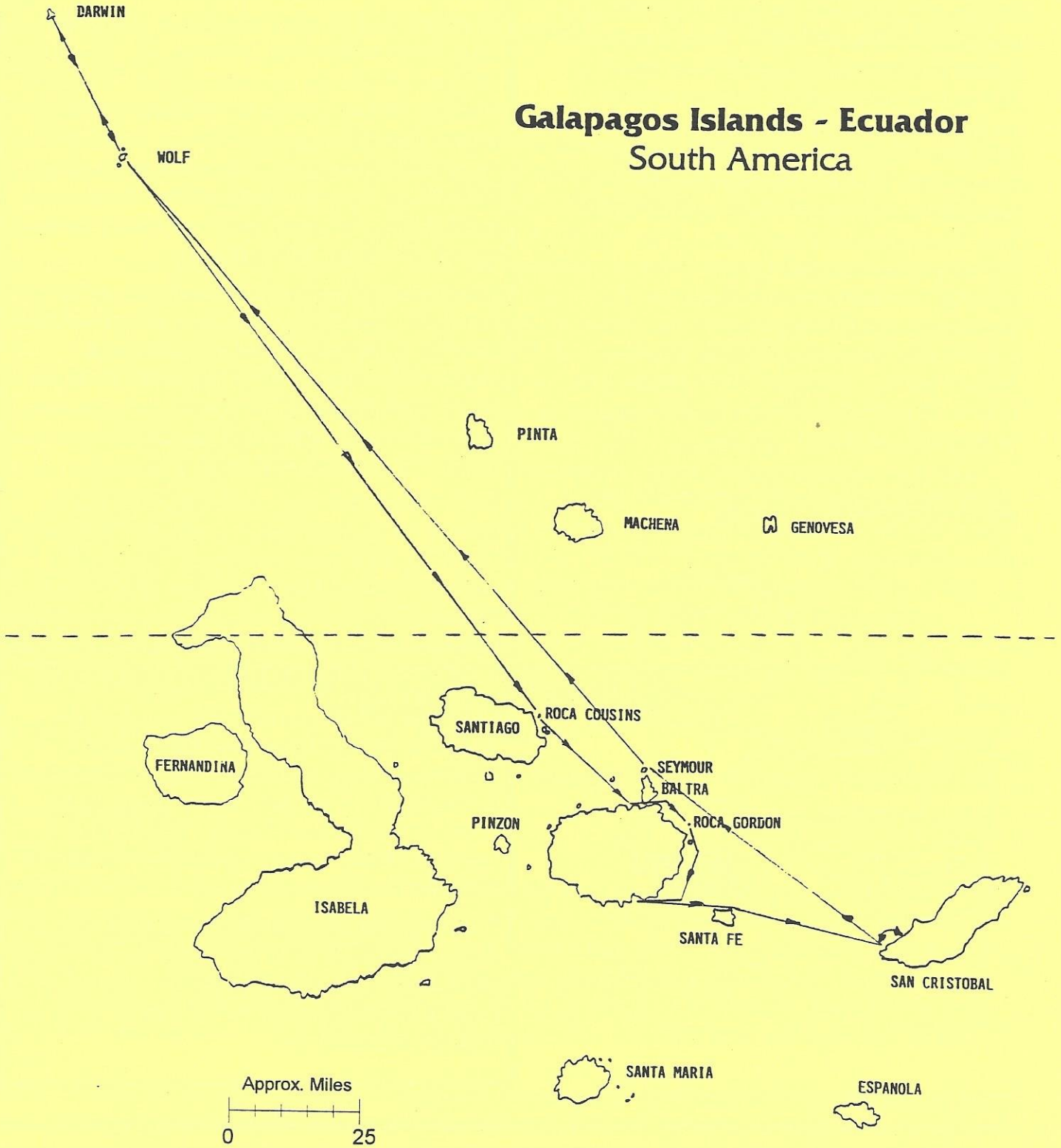
The run to Wolf Island took almost 20 hours. The sea was moderately rough, and the sky blue, white, black, rainy with huge double rainbows and spectacular at sunset. Wolf loomed out of the early morning haze of the 22nd still two hours away. The volcanic vertical walls of the main island and it's companion small islands at the north and south are spectacular and not scaleable except to rock climbers or mountaineers! Both small islands are the outer rim remnants of extinct volcanoes that blew (a la Mount St. Helens) a LONG time ago, with the main island as the other side of the rims. The first two dives were on Wolf Island's "Shark Point". These dives, with rocks-on-the-right, netted sightings of a variety of shark including Galapagos, Scalloped Hammerheads, White Tip, with Sea Turtles and an inquisitive pod of Dolphins. Great stuff!! The third dive was in the opposite direction (no current) with rocks-on-the-left. During this dive several of us explored the large caverns in the vertical wall, really interesting. Our end point of this dive was on a slender pinnacle (also a rim remnant) which came within 30 feet or so of the surface. Unfortunately, we arrived at the pinnacle at the same time as divers from the *Lammer Law*, creating a major "traffic jam" underwater, in an area where there was no one else for hundreds of miles!! Oops! Pete K.'s eye had regressed somewhat and attempts to contact DAN were planned for the next day.

We overnighted in the "crater" at the north end of Wolf, leaving about 4:00 AM for the run to Darwin Island. We passed the really spectacular and much photographed Darwin's Arch a little after 7:00 AM and anchored inside the "crater". The main island was similar in topography to Wolf and formed the north side of the crater, with a just visible reef curling round to the west and south where the arch stood. In essence about two thirds of the extinct volcano rim was visible. This is Whale Shark country and to say the least, we were excited on the viewing prospects....

A.P.

PART III - WHALE SHARKS OR NOT, BACK TO THE SOUTH ISLANDS, next month.

Galapagos Islands - Ecuador South America

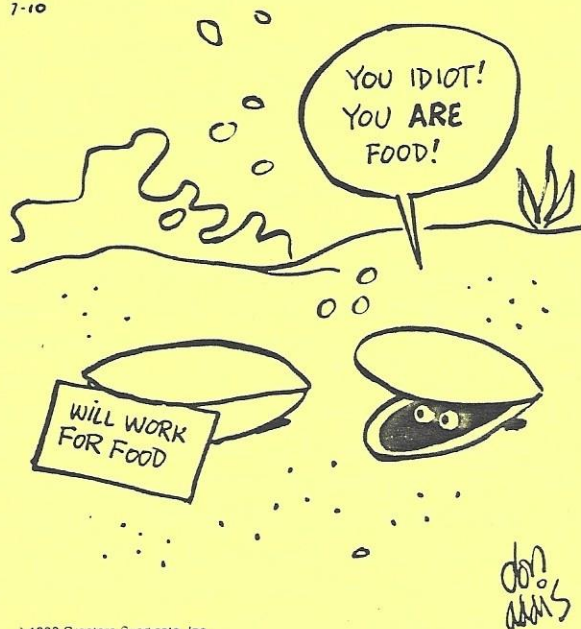


JUST 15 YEARS AGO...

The President was Bonnie Chettle, Vice President Bob Revius, Treasurer Cathy Mueller and Secretary David Serena. There were two boat dives planned, *Peace* to Talcott Shoals at \$35 non-inclusive and a night dive to Catalina on the infamous *Wild Wave* at \$30 non-inclusive. There was no planned beach dive however, eleven were scheduled for the year. General Meetings were held at Lococo's and Exec Meetings at an Exec's home. The February Newsletter had reports of two single day trips to San Nic, one on *Charisma* in December netting 20 bugs, one at over 13 pounds and a second trip on *Wild Wave* in January netting 32 bugs on six dives (one gate time of 30 seconds!) with one lobster weighing in at over 12 pounds.

BENT OFFERINGS By Don Addis

7-10



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AVALON UNDERWATER CLEAN-UP FEBRUARY 21

The 1998 Underwater Clean-Up of Avalon Bay takes place on Saturday, February 21. This is the 18th year of this popular annual event. The trash found in the bay is collected over the two hour period, then sorted and recycled by volunteers. An awards presentation will follow at Wrigley Plaza Stage in town. There will be a large number of prizes given away and awards given out for exemplary trash and stories.

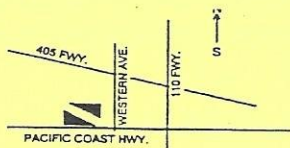
The proceeds from the Underwater Clean-Up will benefit the Catalina Conservancy Divers and the Catalina Hyperbaric Chamber. **Advanced registration is required. Registration will not be allowed the day of the event.** Cost per diver is \$25.00 and includes an air fill, door prize ticket, and a commemorative T-shirt.

For a registration form and further information, contact the Catalina Conservancy Divers at (310) 348-4750, Fax (310) 348-4755 or call event chairman Chester Lowe (310) 641-8817

NEW BOAT DIVE RESERVATIONIST!!

Curt Billings has volunteered to replace Kathy Kalohi as The Sea Diver Boat Reservationist effective as of the 14 March 1998 dive aboard *Great Escape* to San Nic. Kathy served as the reservationist for over 3 years. The Sea Divers commend Kathy on the excellent job she did and thank her for all her efforts.

We'd also like to thank Curt for volunteering, it's always nice to get some new blood into the Exec committee! Curt may be contacted via phone at (909) 945-3451, Fax at (909) 477-2849, or via e-mail at curt@diver.net.



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.

1998 BOAT DIVE SCHEDULE

DIVE	DAY(S)	DATE(S)	DESTINATION	PRICE*	BOAT	LOCATION
98-1	SUN	8 FEB	SANTA BARBARA / SUTIL	\$85	GREAT ESCAPE	22 ND STREET
98-2	SAT	14 MAR	SAN NICOLAS	\$95	GREAT ESCAPE	22 ND STREET
98-3	SAT	11 APR	SHIP ROCK/BLUE CAVERN/BIRD ROCK	\$70	GREAT ESCAPE	22 ND STREET
98-C10	WED	6 MAY	CHAMBER DAY 10 / CATALINA	\$65*	GREAT ESCAPE	22 ND 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 1/2 FATHOM SPOT	\$85	GREAT ESCAPE	22 ND STREET
98-6	FRI/SAT	24/25 JULY	BEGG ROCK/SANTA BARBARA/FARNSWORTH BANKS	\$190	GREAT ESCAPE	22 ND STREET
98-7	SUN	16 AUG	OLYMPIC & STAR OF SCOTLAND WRECKS & PALOS VERDES	\$70	GREAT ESCAPE	22 ND STREET
98-8	FRI/SAT	11/12 SEPT	RICHARDSON'S/CASTLE/WILSON ROCKS	\$180	PEACE	VENTURA MARINA
98-9	FRI/SAT/	30/31 OCT	CORTES & TANNER BANKS	\$195	GREAT ESCAPE	22 ND 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 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

FEBRUARY						
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

February 2
February 8
February 21

General Meeting - 7 PM - Round Table Pizza
Boat Dive: Santa Barbara - *GREAT ESCAPE*
Beach Dive: Catalina - 18th Avalon Harbor Underwater Clean-Up

MARCH						
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				

March 3
March 12
March 14

General Meeting - 7 PM - Round Table Pizza
Executive Meeting - 7 PM - Roberto Al Mare
Boat Dive: San Nicolas - *GREAT ESCAPE*

IN THIS ISSUE!!!!!!

- New Boat Dive Reservationist!!
- Tales of the Galapagos - PART II!!
- Club History!!
- ...and MORE!!

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

FIRST CLASS MAIL
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

