

THE SEA DIVERS



IN AFFILIATION WITH AMERICAN DIVING

FROM THE EXECUTIVE REPORT CARD...

I find it amazing that 2000 is almost over. This year just zipped right by, did not stop at "go" and gave us a few headaches. In general we, as a club, continue in good shape. We had a few problems with our dive boats including two cancellations due to boat problems and (so far) three undersubscribed dives, San Clemente on *Great Escape* in April and the *Peace* two day trips in September and October. All in all we lost \$1600 for the year but fortunately we were able to afford it. We still have openings on the *Peace* two day in early December so our losses may grow. Prices will have to rise in 2001 and are still TBD. Membership remains constant with our active membership maintaining also a fairly constant level. We were unable to attain the necessary sign-ups for the 8th King Harbor Underwater CleanUp so it was postponed to 21 October '01. Seems like clean-ups in general have declining support. We've had several healthy solid years but it does seem that we are seeing some erosion in support this year. We look forward to 2001 in the hope that it will be a healthy solid year. That of course is up to you as Club Members and up to the Execs to make sure we guide the Club appropriately. The Bi-Annual Executive Meeting is on the 7th December '00, agenda and details are inside this Newsletter. I would like to thank all the Execs for their support and efforts in '00 especially Kathy Dacey, Peter Landecker and Curt Billings. Without the Execs support and Club Membership support we'd be The Dead Duck Club!!

A.P.

DECEMBER GENERAL MEETING

JOE BELANGER – CATALINA ISLAND, ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW

This months General Meeting will feature Joe Belanger presenting a parity of his new book "Catalina Island, All You Need to Know". The presentation will delve into the development of Avalon, Catalina's interior and then into the history of diving at Catalina. The prelude will be an underwater segment showing some of Joe's favorite underwater shots he's taken at Catalina. Copies of Joe's book will be available for a discounted price of \$15 and Joe will be happy to sign copies.

Joe was certified as a PADI Open Water Diver in 1978. He became an open water instructor in 1984. Joe served as a technical diver and field research technician for Marine Biological Consultants Applied Environmental Sciences from 1983 to 1986. He began photographing California's marine life in 1982. His work has appeared in many diving publications, including *Skin Diver*, *Scuba Times*, *Discover Diving*, *Diver* and *California Diver* to name a few. He is a seminar speaker for dive shows/clubs throughout Southern California and talks mostly on California photography and Catalina Island. His seminars about Catalina are truly unique, as Joe delves into historic Catalina in the 1800's and the history of diving at Catalina, from the 1950's to current day reality.

So bring your imagination and questions to the next General Meeting on Tuesday December 5th 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>	<u>E-MAIL</u>
PRESIDENT	ALLEN PARKER	813-2955	540-1044	814-6630	allen.parker@trw.com
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SECRETARY	(OPEN)	-----	-----	-----	-----
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LEGISLATIVE INFO CHAIR	PHIL BERGERON	813-0511	379-0972	N/A	phil.bergeron@trw.com
WEBMASTER	CURT BILLINGS	N/A	909-945-3461	909-477-2849	curt@diver.net

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 as required on the week following the General Meeting at a South Bay Restaurant. (See calendar on back page, President calls meetings as needed).

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 _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

Type of diving preferred: beach/boat/skin _____

[] SINGLE MEMBERSHIP \$18.00 (to 6/30/01) (Annual dues 1 July - 30 June are \$24 single/
[] FAMILY MEMBERSHIP \$27.00 (to 6/30/01) \$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

LAST CHANCE AT THIS PRICE!

2/3 Dec 2000 (Sat/Sun)

Northern Channel Islands

PEACE

Members \$185

Everything Included!

Boarding: 7:00 PM (12/1)

Non-Members \$200

Departure: 12:01 AM (12/2)

Once more our final charter for the year in on the *Peace* to the outer Northern Channel Islands, as always weather permitting. Last year the weather was good so hopefully this year will be the same or better. Our plan is to head for either San Miguel or Santa Rosa on the first day and be at San Miguel the second day, until about 1:00 PM.

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. Our *Peace* trip in September was outstanding.

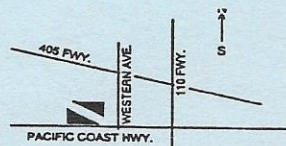
The food fare on the *Peace* is always excellent and plentiful. The first day will provide heavy duty diving, for those so inclined, with up to 6 dives possible plus a night dive. The second day will provide for 3 or 4 dives. Dive spots will include areas suitable for intermediate divers and hopefully some more advanced pinnacle spots covering the full range of diver desires and capabilities.

At the time of this writing the boat is STILL not full with several spots open. HELP NEEDED!!
Call Curt (Billings) at (909) 945-3461, Fax at (909) 477-2746 or e-mail at curt@diver.net.

SEA DIVER ACTIVITIES

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
Thurs	7 Dec '00	Year-End Executive Meeting, San Franciscan Restaurant, Torrance
Sat	24 Feb '01	21 st Avalon Harbor Cleanup, Catalina
Wed	2 May '01	Chamber Day 2001, Chamber Evening @ Long Beach Aquarium
Sun	20 May '01	Bouillabaisse / Pot Luck, Veteran's Park, Redondo Beach
Sat	15 Sept '01	International Coastal Clean Up Day, various locations
Sun	21 Oct '01	8 th King Harbor Underwater CleanUp

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



MORE BARBARA BUGS

4 February 2001 (Sun)

SANTA BARBARA / SUTIL

GREAT ESCAPE

Members \$95*

(All inclusive and limited load!)

Boarding: 8:00 PM (2/3)

Non-Members \$105*

Departure: 2:00 AM (2/4)

New Members \$64*

The first dive of our 2001 program is to Santa Barbara Island and Sutil Island. This lobster season Santa Barbara has proven to be one of the best spots in Southern California waters for legal size bugs. We continue our excellent relationship with the *Great Escape* and hope to have a great trip especially with our limited load scenario. The bugs were "biting" on our October 2000 dive.

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 sometimes in "flying formations". The reefs are ideal for photography, video, 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. Relative beginners should check with the divemaster to ascertain the specifics of each dive. *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. Call Curt (Billings) at (909) 945-3461, Fax at (909) 477-2849, or e-mail at curt@diver.net to sign up for this all inclusive limited load trip on a great boat to one of the best islands. You may pre-select your stateroom / bunk on receipt of full payment. SIGN-UP NOW, IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY!!

* Prices are not finalized as of this writing, however if you sign up and pay prior to the January 2001 newsletter being published, it's yours for this price!!! The price will not go down!

PARTY TIME!!

9 December 2000

Hosts: Dave Gunning & Terry Sobolewski

4268 Jackson Avenue

Culver City

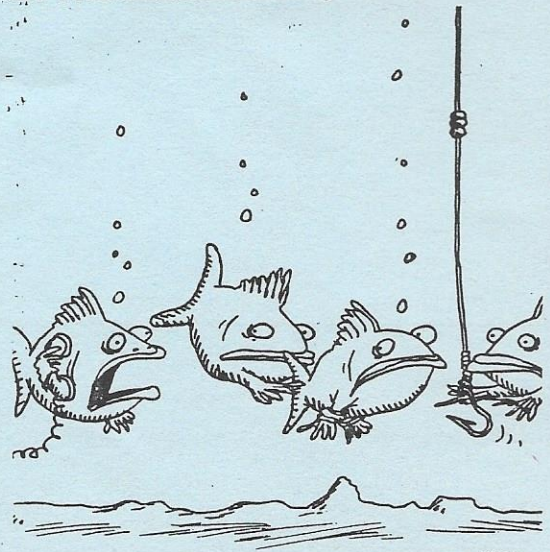
(310) 815-0550

Appetizers at 2:00 PM

Buffet at 4:00 PM

Beer and Wine provided

IN THE BLEACHERS By Steve Moore



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MOORE
11-8

"Wait! It's the governor! There's been a reprieve!"

BAHAMAS DIVE TRIP REPORT

John Delaney

I took a dive trip to dive Blue Holes in the Bahamas from 10/13 to 10/20 on a live aboard called the *Ocean Explorer* - www.oceanexplorerinc.com.

Those of you who know me realize that I don't often take the time to report on a dive trip but this was a great trip and a good charter operation so I thought I would write up a short report. This is a 55' boat that is laid out more efficiently than any other dive boat I have been on. They only take 8 passengers normally - 4 in two staterooms (small) and four in a central bunk-room up forward. There are two heads with showers in the forward bunk- room and two hot showers on deck. Food was great. They do specialty trips in the Bahamas and even snorkeling only trips. If you are thinking of a vacation in the Bahamas, I recommend you look into their schedule.

Blue Holes are so named for the deep blue color of the water at the mouth of the hole as compared to the surrounding water / land. They are the entrance to a cave system and as such are basically the same as a sinkhole in Florida or a cenote in Mexico. We dove a rift line that extends for at least 60 miles along the East Side of Andros Island. All but one of the holes we dove were located offshore on the fringing reef but we did go inland, by truck, one day to dive one in the jungle. Most of these holes are basically a spot where the top of the cave has collapsed and that opening now provides an entrance and access to an upstream and a downstream tunnel.

The unique aspect of this 'cave ' diving as compared to other places I have dove is the tidal flow. Because you don't want to be trying to get out of the cave when the tide is flowing in, it is important to time your dive so that you enter at the high tide slack and exit with the outgoing tide. The depth of these dive also dictates that most of this diving is decompression diving. When you combine this with the outgoing tide flow in some fairly narrow openings it makes for some interesting decompression stops. A bit like being in the mouth of a large hose. Then you have to take account of the required surface intervals because of the repetitive deep dives so you end up diving every 12 hours on the high tide slack.

The high tide slack was at 1100 hours on our first day of diving so the second dive of the day was at 2300 hours. With the normal tide shift of about an hour each day, we ended up diving at 3 and 4 AM by the end of the week. This makes for a very interesting meal and sleep schedule. The entire crew was great about accommodating our dive schedule.

The caves were great and many were decorated with stalactites and stalagmites. The inland cave was an awesome rift with beautiful flow stone formations on the walls. It was interesting as we had a GIANT stride entry with a 30' drop (with double 100's) - we lowered the stage bottles down on a block and tackle and put them on in the water. Everything went up on the block and tackle because the cliff was too steep and slippery to climb with the weight of the doubles.

I reached a personal goal of diving to 300' depth in one of the caves and tried to better that a few days later but the cave bottomed out at 281'. We dove tri-mix on dives below 200'.

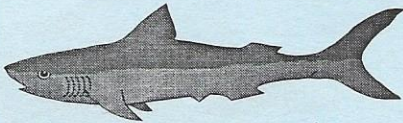
The surprising highlight of the night dives turned out to be the decompression at the 20' stop. The outgoing tide brings a lot of concentrated nutrients out of the cave and they draw in schools of small fish to feed. The small fish in turn draw in the larger fish etc. etc. The hour plus decompressions were like being in a giant aquarium with the full spectrum of tropical fish parading by in all sizes.

Even I find reliving the details of each dive boring so I won't make you suffer through them.

BI-ANNUAL EXECUTIVE MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

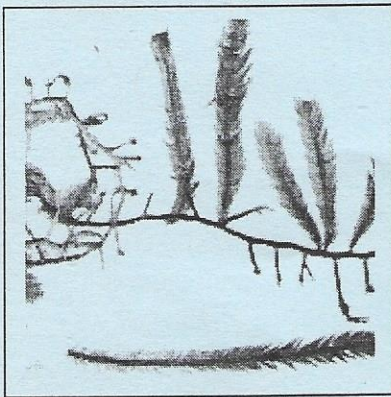
There will be an Executive Meeting on Thursday 7 December 2000 at the San Franciscan restaurant in Torrance at 7:00 PM. All Execs should try to attend and anyone else interested in the Club's planning and/or interested in becoming an Exec is very welcome. The agenda is:

<u>PRESIDENT'S REVIEW</u>	<u>OFFICER / COMMITTEE REPORTS</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overall Club Status• Executives for 2001• Boat dive prices for 2001	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vice-President – Kathy D.• Treasurer – Allen P.• Secretary – (TBD)• Membership – Kathy D.• Boat Dive Chair – John T.• Boat Dive Reservationist – Curt B.• Beach Dive Chair – Billy G.• Diving Officer – John M.• Newsletter Editor – Kathy D.• Program Chair – Peter L.• Legislative Info Chair – Phil B.• King Harbor CleanUp – Allen P.• Hospitality Chair – Kathy K.• WebMaster – Curt B.
<u>ON-GOING BUSINESS</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bad guy list – additions etc.• Entertainment ideas• Club T-Shirts	
<u>NEW BUSINESS</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 21st Avalon Harbor Clean-Up• Yukon dive• Other	



DESTRUCTIVE SEAWEED THREATENS CALIFORNIA

An alien green algae (*Caulerpa taxifolia*) has been discovered in a coastal lagoon located approximately 20 miles north of San Diego, California. An aggressive clone of this species has been highly invasive in the Mediterranean Sea, where the government has been unable to control its spread. *Caulerpa taxifolia*, is a species of algae which has never before been documented on the west coast of the Americas.



Although the marine (saltwater) seaweed *Caulerpa taxifolia*, also known a “killer algae”, poses no threat to human health, it will have devastating ecological and economic consequences for California if it is allowed to become permanently established. This non-native seaweed threatens California's coastal marine life, including kelp forests, and their related fish, sea mammals, and sea birds.

Caulerpa taxifolia has the ability to form a dense smothering blanket of growth on any surface (rock, sand, or mud). It is capable of extremely rapid growth – up to one inch per day. Any small fragment of this seaweed has the potential to start a new colony, which can expand to cover more than 75 square feet

within one year. It can grow in shallow coastal lagoons as well as in deeper ocean waters, and has reportedly survived up to ten days out of water. Because of these characteristics, an infestation of *Caulerpa taxifolia* can quickly become uncontrollable.

Dispersal of *Caulerpa taxifolia* throughout the Mediterranean is believed to attributable to fishing gear, boat anchors, and anchor lines.

Learn to recognize the seaweed. If you find any of this seaweed anywhere (in the water, along the shoreline, or on your watercraft or fishing gear), please contact one of the National Marine Fisheries Service (562) 980-4043 (bob.hoffman@noaa.gov), the California Dept. of Fish and Game (858) 467-4218 (wpaznokas@dfg.ca.gov) or SD Regional Water Quality Control Board (858) 467-2952 (peteg@rb9.swrcb.ca.gov).

2001 BOAT DIVE SCHEDULE

DIVE	DAY(S)	DATE(S)	DESTINATION	PRICE*	BOAT	LOCATION
01-1	SUN	4 FEB	SANTA BARBARA / SUTIL	TBD	GREAT ESCAPE	22 ND STREET
01-2	SAT	10 MAR	SAN NICOLAS	TBD	GREAT ESCAPE	22 ND STREET
01-3	SAT	7 APR	SAN CLEMENTE BACKSIDE	TBD	GREAT ESCAPE	22 ND STREET
01-C13	WED	2 MAY	CHAMBER DAY 2001/ CATALINA	TBD	GREAT ESCAPE	22 ND STREET
01-4	FRI/SAT	11/12 MAY	SAN MIGUEL	TBD	PEACE	VENTURA MARINA
01-5	SAT	2 JUNE	OIL RIGS: EUREKA, ELLY/ELLEN	TBD	GREAT ESCAPE	22 ND STREET
01-6	SAT	23 JUNE	OSBORNE BANK / SANTA BARBARA	TBD	GREAT ESCAPE	22 ND STREET
01-7	FRI/SAT	20/21 JULY	BEGG ROCK/SAN NIC /SANTA BARBARA	TBD	GREAT ESCAPE	22 ND STREET
01-8	SUN	12 AUG	PALAWAN / AVALON / DOMINATOR WRECKS	TBD	GREAT ESCAPE	22 ND STREET
01-9	FRI/SAT	21/22 SEPT	SAN MIGUEL PINNACLES	TBD	PEACE	VENTURA MARINA
01-10	TUES/WED	9/10 OCT	SAN NICOLAS / SANTA ROSA	TBD	PEACE	VENTURA MARINA
01-11	FRI/SAT	26/27 OCT	CORTES & TANNER BANKS	TBD	GREAT ESCAPE	22 ND STREET
01-12	SAT/SUN	1/2 DEC	NORTHERN CHANNEL ISLES	TBD	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 paying full annual membership allowed one single day dive at approximately two-thirds of member price. Dive 01-C13 does not include air, food, and beverages. All dives except 01-C13 are limited load of 28 divers.

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

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

BOAT DIVE RESERVATIONIST:

Curt Billings

Phone: (909) 945-3461, Fax: (909) 477-2746

e-mail: curt@diver.net

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

THE SEA DIVERS

P.O. Box 2415

Redondo Beach, CA 90278

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						

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			

December 2-3

December 5

December 7

Boat Dive – Northern Channel Islands - *PEACE*

General Meeting - 7 PM - Round Table Pizza

Executive Meeting – 7 PM – San Franciscan Restaurant, Torrance

January 2

General Meeting - 7 PM - Round Table Pizza - **CANCELLED**

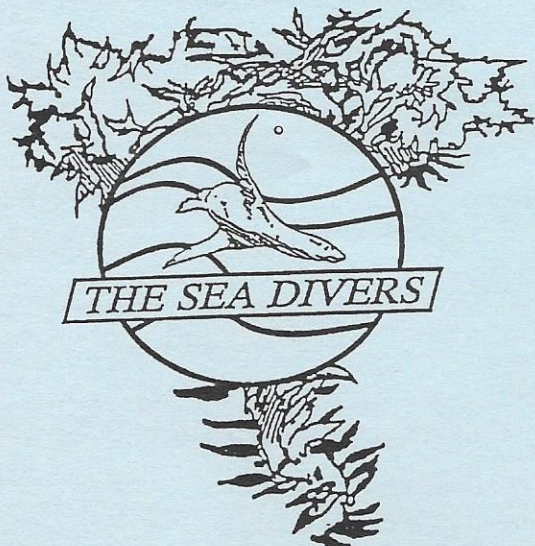
NOTE:
JANUARY 2ND
GENERAL MEETING IS
CANCELLED!!

WE NEED YOUR HELP
IN FILLING THIS DIVE!!
SIGN UP TODAY!!

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

FIRST CLASS MAIL

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



WWW.SEADIVERS.ORG