

# THE SEA DIVERS

IN AFFILIATION WITH AMERICAN DIVING

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE...

... and a nice office it is! I was sitting and pondering the subject for the Executive Blah-de-Blah (as the Newsletter Editor calls this piece!) for this Newsletter and suddenly realized that my own situation on gear maitenance was a good, or bad, basis for a reminder. Spring and Summer diving is approaching ast and now is the time to have your gear maintained, if not recently done. I have to admit I tned to get maitenence once a problem appears, e.g. leaks, free flows, blank computer screen, VIPs, etc. Every year I clair I won't do that and (almost) every year I do!! So, don't do as I do, do as I say, maintain your gear at least once per year, including all the o-rings. Also inspect your hoses frequently for signs of damage or cracking. Maintain and be safe!!

A.P.

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# MARCH GENERAL MEETING KELLY BRACKEN – INDONESIA & MALAYSIA, ABOVE AND BELOW

Kelly Bracken is an advanced amateur Photographer. She fell in love with the activity when she was 17 and hasn't stopped shooting since. Kelly minored in Photography at Cal State Long Beach and continued her education with additional units at Brooks Institute of Photography in Santa Barbara. She specialized in fine art, nature and travel photography until 1986 when she was introduced to scuba diving in the Sea of Cortez. Kelly's portfolio was subsequently expanded to include underwater images along with her topside collections.

Kelly has received awards both internationally and domestically, has been published in Pacific Diver and Skin Diver magazines and has traveled and photographed both with Brooks Institute and wildlife photographer Tom Campbell. Her travels have included the cold water diving of our Pacific coast from Vancouver to the Coronado Island including our local Channel islands. Kelly has also experienced warm water diving in areas ranging from Jamaica and Grand Cayman, to Honduras, Hawaii, Papua New Guinea Indonesia and Malaysia.

For the March General Meeting, Kelly has prepared a slide show of a trip she took in September 1999. At that time she had the opportunity to join Tom Campbell on one of his charters to Indonesia and Malaysia. The first week was on Derawan Island in Indonesia and the second week on the island of Mabul, in Malaysia. Both resorts were land based and took the better part of two days to get to. As part of the trip they also had the opportunity to participate in the first International Underwater Malaysia Photo/Video Competition. Kelly's show will include a tour of the topside facilities at both of the resorts as well as the fantastic sea life in the abundant waters off these two very different islands.

Our next General Meeting is on Tuesday 6 March at Round Table Pizza in Hawthorne starting at 7:00 PM.. Stop on by to hear and see Kelly's fascinating discussion and photos.

SINCE 1965
MARCH 2001 ISSUE
Volume 01, Issue 03

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTORY

		DAY	EVENING		
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EVENING

#### 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 PHO	NE ()
ADDITIONAL NAME (FAMILY MEMBERS)	HIP)	
EMERGENCY CONTACT	PHO	NE ()
EMPLOYER		
CERT NUMBER	TYPE [PA	DI, NAUI, ETC.]
CERT DATE	LACC ADP	DATE
	(or equivalent)	
NUMBER OF DIVES LOGGED	D.	ATE OF LAST DIVE
E-MAIL ADDRESS		
Type of diving preferred: beach/boat/skin	1	
[ ] SINGLE MEMBERSHIP	\$12.00 (to 6/30/01)	(Annual dues 1 July - 30 June are \$24 single/
[ ] FAMILY MEMBERSHIP	\$18.00 (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

# **END OF LOBSTER SEASON**

10 March 2001 (Sat)

SAN NICOLAS

**GREAT ESCAPE** 

Members \$110

(Includes everything with limited load!)

Boarding: 8:00 PM (3/9)

Non-Members \$120

PROMPT!→

Departure: 11:00 PM (3/9)

#### **New Members \$74**

The lobster season, once more, is drawing to a close. This limited load charter is on *Great Escape* out of 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, San Pedro. We will arrive at San Nicolas just after first light and although not early enough for a full night dive it will be dark down there so be sure to bring a good light and a backup. We have made San Nicolas on most attempts on the *Great Escape*.

Our primary targets on this trip are bugs and there still are a few biggies out there. Perseverance is the key, as all great bug warriors will tell you. Abalone remain off limits and are not for the taking and probably not so for years to come.

For those of us that are not so lucky, fast enough, or skilled at the lobster stakes, scallops are an alternative and fish provide yet another alternative with many different species to spear. Although not the prettiest underwater environment, San Nicolas can provide excellent opportunities for video or photography.

Diving around San Nicolas is suitable for all skill levels with ocean cooperation. If not sure of dive conditions, check with the divemaster before making a deep or potentially difficult dive. Call Curt (Billings) at (909) 945-3461, Fax at (909) 477-2849 or e-mail curt@diver.net for sign-ups and additional information. Bunks and staterooms will be pre-assigned on a first pay/space available basis. SAN NICOLAS IT IS...DON'T WAIT, LIMITED LOAD and the last chance for bugs this season! Please note the boat departs at 11:00 PM prompt on Friday evening.

# **BACKSIDE BEAUTY**

7 April 2001 (Sat)

SAN CLEMENTE BACKSIDE

**GREAT ESCAPE** 

Members \$105

(All inclusive & limited load!)

Boarding: 8:00 PM (4/6)

Non-Members \$115

PROMPT!→

**Departure: 1:00 AM (4/7)** 

#### **New Members \$70**

This single day springtime dive on the *Great Escape* will take us to the backside of San Clemente Island. We will run to Seal Cove or perhaps Lost Point to begin our diving. As the day progresses we'll work our way back North and West diving at the Four-and-a-Half fathom spot finishing up in the Castle Rock area. All of the areas on the backside typically have excellent reef structures with a multiplicity of growth and sea life. The walls and canyons are second to none in the local area and provide some of the most varied diving environs. Depths will range from 40 to over 100 feet with water temperature anticipated to be around 60°F.

The dive is suitable for all levels of skill, ocean conditions permitting. The backside does see it's fair share of swells and potentially rough water but this time of year should provide a good chance of success. Looky-loos and/or photographers will not be disappointed with the environs of San Clemente, and for the game takers, scallops and a goodly variety of fish are available. It will also be interesting to see if the Pink and Green abalone are showing any sign of recovery. Hopefully the sun will grace us with a nice warm spring day.

Call Curt (Billings) at (909) 945-3461, Fax at 9909) 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. DON'T WAIT!...SIGN UP NOW!!

#### WHAT A GREAT TRIP!

What better than to live in Southern California, be out on a boat in early February and have July or August temperatures. It was 87°F downtown and in the mid to high 70's on the ocean, which was calm but had intermittent large swells.

Our first dive spot was north and slightly east of the North West tip of Santa Barbara Island. On a reef, row called "Tim's Reef", the top was at 80 feet or so with a nice 30 feet wall dropping to 112 feet or so. There was a fairly noticeable surface current but not much at depth. Temperature was just under 60°F and visibility around 45 feet. This reef yielded only a few bugs.

The second dive was on Hidden Reef on the west side of the island which had similar conditions to dive one with a plateau at about 80 feet. Many more bugs hers! Visibility was slightly less at around 35 feet. Several 12 to 15 feet swells came through, some almost threatening to break which would have been unpleasant for the boat to say the least!!

Tim B. then moved *Great Escape* to the South East corner of the island and anchored in about 35 feet of water, out of the swells. Even so it was a little surgy down there with sand infiltrating the water keeping visibility in the 20 to 30 feet range. Not many bugs here.

We made a short move to Bob's Spot. Nice dive on a spot Bob D. remembered from a previous trip. Several bugs were nabbed here. Depths to about 50 feet.

Diving over we made a fairly fast run back to 22<sup>nd</sup> Street arriving at about 5:15 PM which was good seeing as how it was Sunday evening. There were no significant boobies made, thus no awards. The skipper and the Great Escape crew did a great job on a great day of diving and unbelievably nice weather. See you in March to San Nicolas.

# **QUOTES FROM S.B....**

- "Delaney no showed?...Wow!?"
- "My body's trying to catch something."
- "Does it have other attachments?"
- "Once you've tried batteries you'll never go back."
- "Brought one for the Divemaster like all good divers should."
- "Looks like everyone's done..."
- "...No, we're just getting started."
- "Here comes the wine patrol..."
- "...And Chris with his cup."
- "How come you don't rate a cut plastic wine glass?"
- "Unbelievable weather, and it's only February...Nice!!"

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 you adventures from day trips to the local islands to your wildest diving fantasy



#### 2001 BOAT DIVE SCHEDULE

DIVE	DAY(S)	DATE(S)	DESTINATION	PRICE'	BOAT	LOCATION
01-1	SUN	4 FEB	SANTA BARBARA / SUTIL	\$100	GREAT ESCAPE	22ND STREET
01-2	SAT	10 MAR	SAN NICOLAS	\$110	GREAT ESCAPE	22ND STREET
01-3	SAT	7 APR	SAN CLEMENTE BACKSIDE	\$105	GREAT ESCAPE	22ND STREET
01-C13	3 WED	2 MAY	CHAMBER DAY 2001/ CATALINA	\$75	GREAT ESCAPE	22ND STREET
01-4	FRI/SAT	11/12 MAY	SAN MIGUEL	\$200	PEACE	VENTURA MARINA
01-5	SAT	2 JUNE	OIL RIGS: EUREKA, ELLY/ELLEN	\$85	GREAT ESCAPE	22ND STREET
01-6	SAT	23 JUNE	OSBORNE BANK / SANTA BARBARA	\$100	GREAT ESCAPE	22ND STREET
01-7	FRI/SAT	20/21 JULY	BEGG ROCK/SAN NIC /SANTA BARBARA	\$215	GREAT ESCAPE	22ND STREET
01-8	SUN	12 AUG	PALAWAN / AVALON / DOMINATOR WRECKS	\$85	GREAT ESCAPE	22 <sup>ND</sup> STREET
01-9	FRI/SAT	7/8 SEPT	SAN MIGUEL PINNACLES	\$200	PEACE	VENTURA MARINA
01-10	TUES/WED	2/3 OCT	SAN NICOLAS / SANTA ROSA	\$180	PEACE	VENTURA MARINA
01-11	FRI/SAT	26/27 OCT	CORTES & TANNER BANKS	\$215	GREAT ESCAPE	22ND STREET
01-12	SAT/SUN	1/2 DEC	NORTHERN CHANNEL ISLES	\$200	PEACE	VENTURA MARINA

<sup>\*</sup>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 he 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

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

## **BOAT DIVE RESERVATIONIST:**

Curt Billings

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

e-mail: curt@diver.net

THE SEA DIVERS
P.O. Box 2415

Redondo Beach, CA 90278

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 6 March 10 General Meeting - 7 PM - Round Table Pizza Boat Dive - San Nicolas Island - *GREAT ESCAPE* 

		A	PRI	L		
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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8	9	10	11	12	13	14
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

April 3 April 7 General Meeting - 7 PM - Round Table Pizza

Boat Dive - Backside, San Clemente Island - GREAT ESCAPE

# HELP!!!

In the December '00 Exec Meeting I noted it was becoming increasingly difficult for me to ensure timely completion of the newsletter each month due to other commitments for my time. It has now become apparent that I can no longer guarantee this newsletter will be completed each month prior to the General meeting. Consequently, this will be the final "full" newsletter unless someone volunteers to take over the entire newsletter process. Until a new person is found there will be either (a) no newsletter or (b) a single page flyer with the monthly speaker and list of dives. Any volunteers would be appreciated.

Kathy - Newsletter Editor

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

FIRST CLASS MAIL
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

