



# CURRENT BUBBLES

NEWSLETTER OF DOLPHIN DIVERS OF SACRAMENTO

P.O. Box 112

Orangevale, California 95662

<http://www.dolphindivers.org>

January, 2014

2013/2014

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Dave Ford  
Lalaynia Little  
Michelle Pluth  
Steve Volpicelli  
Tom Oja



## Presidents Message

By the time you read this it's likely to be 2014! Wow, how the year has flown. We are getting close to a new Dolphin Divers membership and board of directors year as well. Have you given thought to how you can be of service to your club in the next year? As a club, we are entirely dependent on volunteers for everything we do. We need people to serve on the board, run events, and offer their time and talents in other ways. We are fortunate to have a membership that chooses to be active, but we always need new and refreshed ideas.

I am asking each and every club member to consider leading an event or running for a board position next year. We are all busy and

have many other obligations, and I hope that you feel, as I do, that our club is worth being an ACTIVE participant in. If you have led an event or been a board member in the past, thank you! If you haven't, there is no time like the present! Being a board member does not take any experience, just willingness to attend one extra meeting a month, and you can even nominate (and vote) for yourself.

On a final note, when are you diving next? Now is a great time to make sure your gear is ready to go, and get in the water. Monterey is beautiful in the winter- the fog is gone, as are the jellyfish, and the visibility is better (just check the forecast for winter storms!). And while you are at it, invite the club, and make it a club event!

Dive safe - Holly

## ~ Meetings ~

**Board meetings** are held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month, at a Board Members home. All members are welcome to attend all meetings; however we ask that you call the host to RSVP. Board meetings start at 7:00pm Upcoming Board Meetings:

**January 8: Lalaynia Little**

**General Meetings** start at 7:00 pm and are held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at Round Table Pizza, 9500 Greenback Lane (at Madison). Call 916-923-3763 to order in advance, be sure to ask for the Dolphin Dive Club Discount.

## ~DOLPHIN BIRTHDAY CLUB ~

Dave Whiteside 12/12 Jack Millard 12/15  
Nancy Fisher 12/23 Michelle Pluth 12/23  
Jordan Taylor 12/31

# ~Safety~

Hello Divers,

Safety-Safety-Safety! Isn't there anything fun we rant about? Sure equipment... Oh Yeah there is safety with that too.

Have you had all of your equipment inspected for its annual service? Have you monitored the many recalls this past year to see if any of your equipment is on any of those manufacturers' lists?

By this point in our dive life, we realize we make a substantial investment in our equipment. You may be just starting out, or well on your way to owning a complete set or three. You should consider inspecting all equipment when doing your inspections. Not necessarily to have them all "Serviced" but inspected. Silly as it may sound, but look at the straps on your fins. Are they starting to crack? Are your springs rusted? Are the clips cracked? Give it all a good look over. When having your equipment serviced, don't overlook the items such as masks, snorkels, fins, BCD's, weight pockets, cylinders (Tanks) regulators, SPG's, Computers, Lights, Hoses, Fin Straps, Buckles, Wetsuits, Dry Suits, Valves, seams, seals, boots, Camera housing, spear guns, and safe a dive kit(s). You will find it will be much easier to enjoy your next trip, if you just took that little extra time to inspect your gear in advance.

If you have any questions, there are many of us capable of assisting you with inspecting your equipment. In addition, our local repair facilities at Dolphin Scuba, Fish Eye Scuba, and Scuba World are all available for assistance.

With the evolution of technology, comes a variety of advancement and setback. Be sure to understand and learn about your new equipment (that you found under the Christmas tree) before you attempt to dive it for the first time blind. Take it apart and put it back together. Have someone show you the right way to use or dawn your new equipment. For example: Prepare your new mask for its first use properly. Manufacturers coat new masks with a protective chemical that you need to scrub off or you won't be

able to defog the mask. To remove the film, use a soft cloth to gently scour the glass inside and out with a non-gel toothpaste or other low abrasion cleaner without scratching the glass. Be sure to do this before your dive! I like to then coat the inside and out with a thin film of baby shampoo to dry on the lens so that when I am ready to dive, I dip my mask into the water swish it around, dump it, then spray in a mixture of new 50/50 baby shampoo and water and put it on. (Don't put the mask back in the water else you just removed your non-tear anti-fog).

Lastly, there are three general maintenance procedures to apply when caring for all dive equipment, including masks: 1) rinse thoroughly with fresh water after each use (especially after a swimming pool), 2) keep out of direct sunlight and 3) store in a cool dry place. The freshwater rinse removes salt, chlorine and/or minerals that contribute to corrosion and deterioration. Rinse thoroughly as soon as possible after diving; if you can't rinse your gear right away, it's generally better to keep it wet than to let salt water dry on it because it's much harder to remove salt after it dries.

Sunlight damages silicone (and especially neoprene), so avoid leaving your equipment in direct sunlight. If it has to stay out in direct sunlight at a dive site or on a boat, you can throw a beach towel over it. Dry your equipment thoroughly before storing it in a cool, dry place away from hydrocarbons and ozone.

Keep masks and other dive equipment made from silicone out of contact with neoprene. The neoprene leaches into the silicone and discolors it, which doesn't harm it functionally, but makes it look less attractive.

Remember to keep your Bubbles Up, Gear inspected, Body in shape and have a great time diving!

Chris

## ~Past Events~

### 2013 Christmas Promise - It's a wrap!



A big “Thank You” to all those that came and helped wrap presents for this year’s Christmas Promise. We were 13 Elves strong:

David Ford, Steve & Marilyn Campbell, Ken Takata, Karen Herrlie (sister of Joe Herrlie), Carol & Joe Herrlie, Nanhee Kim and friend Steve, Meredith Meschini, Teri Cosby, Lou Schumaker, Brad Frelove, and yours truly.

I know that more wanted to come but ended up with last minute detours – you were missed!!

Marilyn Campbell was also able to secure a \$250.00 donation to the Christmas Promise from her employer AKT Development. The Carlson family made a \$20.00 contribution as well – “THANK YOU” on behalf of the Christmas Promise.

**For more information about the Christmas Promise and how you can help them spread cheer to needy families in our immediate neighborhoods, please contact them at 916/486-3803 or write them at PO Box 661915, Sacramento, CA 95866. They are always looking for donated items and volunteers.**

Until next year,

~ Corinne

## *Christmas Party!*

Detail’s next Bubbles.



## *The Wreck of the La Grange*

When you mention historical shipwreck locations, Sacramento is not at the top of the list. However, during the gold rush period there were more ships moving people and cargo up and down the Sacramento River than were doing the same thing on the Mississippi River. With the discovery of gold, Sacramento became a happening place. Over a hundred thousand prospectors, miners, shopkeepers and assorted other folks came to seek their fortunes. Along with these hard working 49er’s, many not so honest individuals appeared in the gold fields. Their goal was to take gold away from the prospectors. Add in the usual mix of drunks, thieves, and other no-goods, Sacramento soon outgrew its small jailhouse. Our local town leaders came up with the idea of housing the prisoners on ships. A search began and 3 old barks were purchased. While all 3 ships later sank, the La Grange is the most interesting of the trio.

The La Grange started as a passenger and cargo vessel. As her health deteriorated, she found employment as a cabbage barge. It was from this service that the city fathers secured her from, turning her into a prison barge. Until her catching fire and sinking in 1859, the LaGrange was a temporary home for many of the gold rush baddies. The La Grange remained on the bottom of the Sacramento River forgotten in time..... That is until the late 1970’s. Scuba diving was becoming a popular and exciting sport and Sacramento had several dive shops to train and supply divers with the necessary equipment. Seal, Dolphin, Divers Cove, and a couple of Keene’s Aqua Shops were all doing well with this SCUBA thing. In the mid to late 70’s, divers were looking under the water anywhere they could for whatever

they could find. The LaGrange was found and several local divers kept her discovery and location a secret, at least for a while. Many artifacts were brought up from the sunken lady. The captain's chest was found. When opened, the old rusty, muddy metal chest contained what was left of a captain's log, some paper money and coins, and an old pocket watch. Not a fortune in treasure but a great find for those lucky enough to have dove on the wreck.

The secret of the discovery of the La Grange was made semi-public at the Sportsman's Expo that was being held at Cal Expo each year. Ken Schroeder, then the current owner of Dolphin Swim and Scuba, rented a space each year at the Sportsman's Expo. He had a large steel tank that he placed as an exposition. The tank had a couple portholes and when filled with water, a diver would climb inside. Ken hoped that he could generate interest in diving and help him sell classes and equipment. During one year, he secured the load of the artifacts of the La Grange. He displayed them next to the tank with the diver. He did get a lot of interest in diving. He also got the interest of the City of Sacramento. While it took a while for the discovery and location of the LaGrange to get out, once done, all heck broke loose. The City wanted all diving to stop on the wreck as they did not want any artifacts to be removed. An archeologist was hired and commercial divers were sent down to take a look. Local divers were chased off and the wreck with threats of legal action and prison time if they were caught messing with "State" property.

So the local divers decided that it was better to find other areas and moved on to less sensitive locations. You may still be able to find a marker plaque on the Embarcadero that notes the location of the La Grange and gives a short history of her life. Dig deeper into the history of the La Grange and you can still find copies of the original archeologists report. If you are lucky, you might find mention of another wreck..... The wreck that the La Grange sits on top of. When the La Grange sank, she came to rest right on top of the remnants of an unknown Spanish ship. Perhaps hundreds of years earlier, a Spanish ship probably on a voyage of exploration and exploitation, appeared to have been involved in a fire and sank in the exact spot where the La Grange would suffer a similar fate. This ship left behind a collection of timbers, a few bits and pieces, and what was left of an old Spanish sword. To my

knowledge, no attempt was made to discover the name of the sunken Spanish ship or what she may have been doing when she sank. The fire that caused the end of her voyage may have been set deliberately if she became too rotten to continue her trip. This was a common practice of the time.

Some of the local divers of the time have since passed away while others have moved on. Some gave up diving altogether. A few of them may still be out there admiring their collections of early California artifacts and dreaming of those dives made in the black water of the Sacramento River.

Submitted by  
Brad Freelove

## **SUNSHINE COMMITTEE**

If you know of anyone who is celebrating accomplishments, upcoming Weddings, Births, etc., or if you know of a club member who is in need of a little Sunshine please contact Maridee Green at 916-206-0863, or email her at [maridee@homebuying101.com](mailto:maridee@homebuying101.com)

## **\* GARAGE SALE \***

Have anything to SELL – TRADE – GIVE AWAY? You can advertise FREE in the Bubbles. Just e mail the editor [Pennybug76@yahoo.com](mailto:Pennybug76@yahoo.com) with your ad before the sending deadline the Sunday following the General Meeting and your ad will appear in the very next issue. Please limit to "Diving Related" items like Dive Gear, Camera Equipment, Boats, Motors, Camping Gear, Cars, Etc.



## EASTER EGG HUNT Saturday March 22

Our annual Underwater Easter Egg Hunt in Monterey will be on Saturday, March 22. As always we'll have lots of GREAT prizes, one for every egg and some for our raffle too! The hunt area will be at the west end of San Carlos Beach, opposite the breakwater and down the stairs from

the restrooms. Everyone will need to be on the beach between 9:00 and 9:30 a.m. to sign in and receive a dive orientation. The area of the hunt will be cordoned off underwater with yellow rope and there will be floats on the surface marking the area from above. Boats may be moored outside of the hunt area BUT ALL contestants must remain ON THE SURFACE until the whistle is blown. At 10:00 sharp I'll blow a whistle to signal the start of the event, at which time you should descend. If you are floating over the hunt area and descend when I blow the whistle you are almost assured of finding an egg. If you have not

yet reached the hunt area when the whistle is blown the easy ones will be already found and you will have to work much harder to find them. There will be extra weights and a safety diver in my boat, anchored in the center of the area.

We will have children's activities organized on the beach while parents are searching for their eggs underwater. If you, or someone that you know, would be willing to help with the children's activities please let me know.

Prizes for the adults and children will be awarded at the evening buffet and awards ceremony at Crazy Horse Restaurant, located above the Bay Park Hotel, near Hwy 101 & Munras Avenue. The menu selections will be the same as last year with tri-tip, halibut, hot vegetables, soft drinks, the Crazy Horse signature salad bar, and even Chocolate mousse for desert. Social hour will start at 5:00 followed by dinner at 6:00 p.m. and the prize presentations immediately after dinner. Be sure to bring money for some **GREAT** raffle prizes! Please see the flier for more information and to sign up. I will post the sign-up form on



our web site and send a map and directions in an e-mail to everyone who has signed up for this event. If you do not have access to the internet, or a printer, the forms will also be available at the January, February and March general meetings.

*There are many motels and campgrounds in the area. Here are a few contact numbers for some places to stay:*

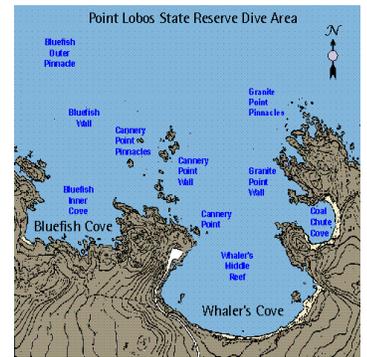
BAY PARK HOTEL (ask for our discount) 800-338-3564  
LAGUNA SECA CAMPGROUND 831-758-3604  
CYPRUS TREE INN MOTEL & RV 831-372-7586  
LONE OAK MOTEL 831-372-4924  
TRAVELODGE 831-373-3381

For more info call Easter Bunny Jack Millard at (916) 987-1303, or by e-mail at [jbmillard@aol.com](mailto:jbmillard@aol.com)



## Point Lobos dive, January 11

We managed to snag 12 of the 15 dive team spaces for Point Lobos on Saturday, January 11. As I write this all of the spaces are filled, but there is only one member on a stand-by list. I will also be diving Point Lobos on Friday, January 10, but no reservations should be necessary. If you want to join me on Friday just show up at the park entrance at 8:00. If you wanted to go but were unable to make your own reservations Send me an e-mail at: [jbmillard@aol.com](mailto:jbmillard@aol.com) or call me at 916-987-1303. If you have a reservation for Saturday it is IMPORTANT that you are there because if the team leader is not there the buddy cannot dive, either. DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR "C" CARD! You have to show it at the Point Lobos park gate to dive.



Point Lobos gates open at 8:00 AM and close 1/2 hour after sunset. You should bring something for lunch and all of your tanks for the day – the nearest dive shop for fills is in Monterey and there won't be time to fill tanks between dives. I plan on making 2 dives.

After we finish diving Saturday, and get cleaned up in our rooms, we'll meet at El Torito's Restaurant, on Cannery Row, for dinner and to celebrate my 65 birthday. We have a 6:00 group reservation. Jack

## Channel Islands 2014

There are only 3 spaces left on our 2014 Channel Islands dive trip on the Conception. This trip will again be for 4 days from Sunday, July 20 to Wednesday, July 23.



We will be diving Catalina Island for the first 3 days then one of the northern islands on the last day. We offer this trip at a substantial discount to the list prices, with a member cost of only \$625.00. This annual trip is our biggest fun(d) raiser for the year and an excellent time for great diving and to get to know all your Dolphin buddies a little better. The diving is limited only by your dive tables and how much you want to dive. If you are a new diver this is probably the best way for you to hone your skills while diving with your more experienced club buddies. The scenery along the islands is so beautiful we often are joined by non-diving family members. The crew takes excellent care of us and it is unbelievable how good the food is coming from the tiny galley.

You can make deposits, payments or payoffs any time, but hurry because space is limited. I'll tell you more at the meetings and in the "Bubbles". When you sign up I'll also send you information about the specifics of the trip and what you can expect. You can check the club website for previous trip reports in our archived Bubbles. Jack Millard [jbmillard@aol.com](mailto:jbmillard@aol.com), 916-987-1303

## **\*2013 TROPHY CORNER\***

**BIG FISH:** Bubba Harris. 26 lb. Ling Cod.

**BIG AB:** Brad Freelove 9.467" AB

**Small Ab:** No Entry at this date

## **DONATE BLOOD & SAVE LIVES**

When you donate blood tell them that you are a member of Dolphin Dive Club and ask that your donation be credited to our account (#3412) and benefit other club members if they need a blood donation.

## **OUT – AND – ABOUT**

Don't forget when you are out-and-about, the following shops and businesses support Dolphin Divers of Sacramento. When you patronize, please tell them you are a club member and thank them for their support.

\*Indicates shops that honor the free air fills on the back of Dolphin Divers membership cards.

\* **Dolphin Scuba Center** (916) 929-8188

\* **Fish Eye Scuba** (916) 850-1145

[www.fisheyescuba.com](http://www.fisheyescuba.com)

\* **Scuba World** (916) 332-8294

[www.scubaworldsacto.com](http://www.scubaworldsacto.com)

**DOLPHIN DIVERS OF SACRAMENTO IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION NOT AFFILIATED WITH ANY DIVE SHOPS, BUT WE DO SUPPORT ALL DIVE SHOPS LISTED**



**DOLPHIN DIVERS OF  
SACRAMENTO  
P.O. Box 112  
Orangevale, CA 95662**



# DOLPHIN DIVERS OF SACRAMENTO

**2014!**  
Happy New Year!

**2014**

## January 2014

- **Board Meeting 1/8/2014** beginning at 7:00PM hosted by Lani Little. Location is at Steve Volpicelli's house. Please contact the Lani at (530) 520-7817
- **General Meeting 1/16/2014** at 7:00PM. Meeting location is Roundtable Pizza in Folsom: 9500 Greenback Lane, Folsom, CA. Open to the public, please come and meet your fellow divers.
- **Point Lobos diving trip in Monterey 1/11/2014.** Please contact the event leader, Jack Millard at (916) 987-1303.

## February 2014

- **Board Meeting 2/5/2014** beginning at 7:00PM hosted by Brad Freelove. Please contact the Brad at (916) 879-3853.
- **President's Day Event 2/15/2014– 2/17/2014** at Casini Ranch. Event leaders are Fred and Lisa Knowles. Stay tuned for more information
- **General Meeting 2/19/2014** at 7:00PM. Meeting location is Roundtable Pizza in Folsom: 9500 Greenback Lane, Folsom, CA. Open to the public, please come and meet your fellow divers. Open to the public, please come and meet your fellow divers.

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<b>September</b> 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	<b>October</b> 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	<b>November</b> 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	<b>December</b> 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

