



CURRENT BUBBLES

NEWSLETTER OF DOLPHIN DIVERS OF SACRAMENTO

P.O. Box 112

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<http://www.dolphindivers.org>

March 2016

2015/2016 Board of Directors

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President's Message

Greetings

Thank You to everyone who came out into the inclimate weather conditions to attend the February General Meeting. If you did not make it then you missed a great presentation by Lt. Jennifer Ikemoto, a Warden and Trainer for the California Department of Fish & Wildlife and daughter of club member Ed Ikemoto. Jennifer is an 18 year veteran of the Department and during that time she has seen it all when it comes to enforcing the rules that have been put in place to protect many endemic species and the environment in California. Thank you Lt. Ikemoto for taking the time to meet with us. At the February meeting we also asked the attendees to nominate who they thought would do a good job serving on our board of directors and also mentioned that it is perfectly OK to nominate oneself for a position. Over the years there have been many members who have served on the board multiple times and quite a few who have never had the privilege. Is it your turn?? If you are new to the club, volunteering to be a candidate and running for office is an excellent way to meet and interact with club members. We

intend to distribute additional nomination forms at the March 16th meeting so it's not too late. In addition to the board positions, we really need a newsletter editor for the coming term. Editor is an appointed position, not elected. So if you think that would be fun just step right up. If you would like to volunteer for anything this year, just send Secretary Brad or myself an email or call and let us know. You will be placed on the ballot for election night April 20th Which – by the way – is FREE PIZZA and SODAS night for paid dues members. So, in closing – get your dues paid - Volunteer to serve on the board – Come to the April Meeting – Vote and eat Free Pizza. ~CB

Meetings

Board meetings are held on the 1st Wednesday of the month, at a Board Member's 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:

**March 2nd – Fred & Lisa Knoles
(916) 944-7716**

General Meetings General Meetings start at 7:00 pm and are held the 3rd Wednesday of each month at Round Table Pizza, 9500 Greenback Lane (at Madison). Call 916-989-1133 to order in advance, be sure to ask for the Dolphin Dive Club Discount.

DOLPHIN BIRTHDAY CLUB

Holger Fuerst	6 th	Marianne Larsen	7 th
Kevin Kunkel	11 th	Loretta Little	12 th
Meredith Meschini	13 th	Tim Lipscomb	14 th
Sandy Smith	22 nd	Mathew Knigge	23 rd
Maridee Green	28 th	Karen Reale	29 th
Alex Knigge	31 st		

Welcome New Member - Al Couch

New Membership Year Starts April 1st!

The Dolphin Divers of Sacramento membership year ends on March 31. You can get a new application from me at the General meetings or head on over to the club website and print one out. Fill the application out, attach your payment, and get it to me. If you want to mail the application and payment in, send it to the club P.O. Box. Family memberships are \$45 and a single membership is \$35. Please fill out the application completely.

When I get your application, I will update our database with your current information that you have provided. If you do not want your birthdates mentioned in the newsletter, leave the info off the application. Good handwriting skills are appreciated. If I cannot read it, you will get an email from me asking for clarification. If you have any questions, let me know.

~ Brad Frelove, Secretary DDS

Dolphin Divers Board of Directors Nominations

At the March 16 General meeting, I will have nomination forms available for all current members. If you want to be on the Board, know of someone that wants to be on the Board, or even suspect that someone wants to be on the Board, put their name on the form and turn it in to me that night. There is **NO BETTER WAY** to get to meet the club membership than by being on the Board. New members are encouraged to become Board members. You do not have to be a diver to be on the Board. You can even nominate yourself if you want.

Between the February General meeting and the April General meeting, I will contact all those members receiving nominations. During the April General meeting, you get to vote in your new Board member.....if you have paid your membership dues. Remember, the April General meeting is **FREE PIZZA** night! Pizza and soft drinks are provided by the club for all those current members that show up and vote. Winners will be announced that night.

~Brad Frelove, Secretary DDS

FUTURE EVENTS EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday March 19



Our annual Underwater Easter Egg Hunt in Monterey will be on Saturday, March 19. 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! 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 800-338-3564
LAGUNA SECA CAMPGROUND 831-758-3604
CYPRESS 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

ABALONE OPENER

Mark your calendars for Abalone Opener Event. The event will be held at Ocean Cove on Saturday, April 2 this year.

Pencil in the date and plan for a fun get together with your fellow divers. Although the official club event is for one day only, several members are already planning their stay for the weekend. Please e-mail me at icokgor@yahoo.com and let me know if you will be attending so that I can have a tally of members to arrange for the boats. More details about the event will follow as we determine the logistics.

~Ilkan Cokgor

Memorial Weekend at Albion Campground

May 27, 28, 29 and 30 will be the days for the Dolphin Divers of Sacramento to visit Albion River Campground for 4 days of camping, diving, great food, and even better friends. Charlie Rojas will be the event leader again. Charlie has reserved 14 sites for the dive club. **We have reserved back to back sites C11 thru C17 and C34 thru C28.** Contact Albion directly to make your reservations. 707.937.0606 will get you to the campground. Charlie will not make your reservation for you! Sometimes, you may need to leave a message at the campground as they are out of the office. Just let them know you are with the Dolphin group. They will get back to you when they can. Water and electricity are at all sites **and the nightly fee is \$38.00.** Ab diving will be part of the program as will a social hour and potluck. Albion River is about 30 minutes south of Ft. Bragg. Hiking trails are all over the place and some great dining locations are located in town. Tons of stuff to do for the non-divers in your group. In past years, Jack Millard has taken a group of us north of the campground to a spectacular cove that was loaded with abs. Flat calm water and awesome scenery made it one of my most memorial dives in quite a while. If you have not been to Albion River before, get hold of Charlie and he will answer any questions that you have. Charlie can be reached c22rojas@yahoo.com or at 707.483.9816. *~Brad Freelove*

Channel Islands 2016

There are a few spaces left on our 2016 Channel Islands



dive trip on the Conception. This trip will again be for 4 days from Sunday, July 24 to Wednesday, July 27. IF the warm El Nino waters are still around we will go

north to San Miguel Island, then work our way south along Santa Cruz and Santa Rosa Islands. This will be in areas we have not dove for a long time because the water is usually cold. Our 2015 trip to Catalina found little kelp because the water was too warm (not Hawaii



warm, but close). If the El Nino breaks down and the water cools we will head back to Catalina for the warmer water. Hunters should be happier in the northern islands, but this is a trip for everyone so we will go where the conditions are best for general diving.

Member cost is still 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. Bottom time is limited only by your nitrogen loading and how many times 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 are often 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 jbmillard@aol.com, 916-987-1303



REEF

Lionfish Trip to Dominica

by Pam Wade

If you still love to spear fish **REEF** (Reef Environmental Education Foundation) has two more trips in 2016. Honduras May 14-21 and Curacao August 20-27. You can check their website for details REEF.org. I was in Dominica February 6-15 with Lad Atkins and Peter Hughes. On their trip in 2012 they removed 45 lionfish. This trip we removed 566 during one week of diving. The tools of the trade are a three prong pole spear that breaks down in 3 pieces for travel (no barbs on the tips) and a zookeeper, designed to get the fish in the PVC canister safely without touching it and hold as many as you can shoot in one dive.

Where did the lionfish come from? In the early 1980's two visually identical species of lionfish were introduced into the Atlantic via the US aquarium trade. Lion fish invaded range is from North Carolina to South America including Gulf of Mexico. They have established throughout most of the Caribbean in less than five years.

Why hunt the lionfish? This invasive species lives for decades, reaching sizes exceeding 19 inches, they inhabit all marine habitat types and depths. Lionfish possess venomous spines capable of deterring predators and inflicting mild to serious stings and reactions in humans. Lionfish become sexually mature in less than a year and spawn in pairs. Reproduction occurs throughout the year about every 4 days (in the Caribbean a single female lionfish can spawn over 2 million eggs per year.) Lionfish are generalist carnivores that consume over 70 species of fish (many prey on commercially, recreationally, and ecologically important species) and many invertebrate species, capable of eating prey up to half their body length. Dense lionfish populations (they can reach densities of over 200 adults per acre) can consume more than 460,000 prey fish/acre/year. Native predators exhibit avoidance for lionfish.

How can we help control the lionfish? Lionfish are edible and considered a delicacy. Local removal efforts that are sustained can significantly reduce lionfish densities. Join a

REEF lionfish trip, participate in a lionfish derby for big money prizes.

I started diving in 1981 and started spear fishing soon after. I have not hunted fish since I started doing fish surveys for REEF (that's another story) maybe 10 years ago. But I must admit my hunter instincts came back with that spear or zookeeper in my hand. Hunting lionfish is a team effort, both to spot the lionfish and to carefully get it in the zookeeper. Quite a few got off the spear tips. We often got 2 or 3 more shots at the fish unless it had been shot at before and quickly hid deep in the reef. We dove Scotshead Drop-off three times. Day 1 removed 34 lionfish, day 3 removed 39 and day 6 removed 8 more. Our best take dive was Rina's Hole 156 lionfish removed on that one hour dive alone. Holger, eat your heart out! Next year pick out a REEF Lionfish trip and I'll hunt right along with you! After each days dive we counted, recorded the weight and length of each fish and then filleted them. The restaurant served lionfish one night and we had lionfish appetizers at the Friday night cocktail party.

For more information on lionfish: GCFI.org, REEF.org under Resources you'll find Lionfish resources.

[A note from the World Championship Abalone Cook Off](#)

By Erin McBride

Greetings fellow Dolphin Divers.... I'm writing to give you an update on what is going on with the Northern California Red Abalone Fishery.

As some of you know the CA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) pursuant to provisions of the Marine life Management Act (MLMA) are developing a recreational Fishery Management Plan (FMP) for the recreational red abalone fishery. Further reductions in bag limits or annual limits may be warranted before the completion of the abalone FMP process.

As a result The Nature Conservancy (TNC) along with the Abalone Working Group (AWG), are collaborating to share the latest abalone fishery science with CDFW scientists and the public to help develop a sustainable abalone fishery plan in Northern CA.

In the spring of 2015, TNC and AWG sponsored an outreach presentation by Dr. Jeremy Prince, a world renowned abalone scientist who has helped many countries improve their fisheries management. Dr.

Prince is an avid spear fisherman and recreational abalone diver in Australia, and for 15 years free-dived commercially for abalone in New Zealand. He completed a groundbreaking PhD on the Australian abalone fishery in 1989 and has gone on to become internationally recognized for his expertise in small scale fisheries in general, although abalones remain his “first love” in marine biology.

On Saturday April 2nd 2016 the Mendocino Area Parks Association (MAPA) is sponsoring another presentation by Dr. Prince who is coming all the way from Australia. He will be sharing the latest abalone biology and describe a new stock assessment approach highlighting its potential for application on California’s North Coast. His presentation is free by invitation only for past and current registered Cook Off cooks at Russian Gulch Campground at 5 pm. MAPA is also sponsoring a second presentation by Dr. Prince for the general public at the Little River Inn, 10:00 am the same day. The fee to attend the public presentation is \$8.00.

Please feel free to contact me by phone or email if you have any questions about Dr. Prince’s presentation or the World Championship Abalone Cook Off. “FINS UP”

Erin McBride, Dolphin Diver Member
Mendocino Area Parks Association
Abalone Committee
Email: erin.mcbride@live.com

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

Garage Sale

FOR SALE - SCUBA PRO Classic BCD XXL
less than 50 dives – Price New \$700.00 Will sell \$350.00
OBO
Dave Whiteside (916) 730-8282

WANTED Looking for extra small or child's B/C and possibly regulator for my 11 year old son. Tom Oja
916-797-0880

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

www.dolphinsscuba.com

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

www.fisheyescuba.com

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

www.scubaworld.com