



# CURRENT BUBBLES

NEWSLETTER OF DOLPHIN DIVERS OF SACRAMENTO

P.O. Box 112

Orangevale, California 95662

<http://www.dolphindivers.org>

January, 2010

Vol. 1, 2010

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Hello and Happy New Year to all my fellow Dolphin Divers!!!

Can you believe we're already into double digits in this millennium? It seems like just yesterday we were celebrating the new millennium's arrival like it was 1999...

And speaking of partying like it was 1999, did any of you happen to stop by that **AWESOME** party a few weeks ago known as the Dolphin Divers Christmas Party? I thought so.... **WHAT A DOOZY OF A PAR-TAY!!!** Thanks again to Marlyn Sepulveda for organizing such a fantastic evening. From the responses I got from the survey I sent out, it seems like almost everyone had a really great time. I know I sure did. Since I received so many responses to the survey, I will send out a copy of the results in a future email. Hopefully, based on this year's responses, we can make next year's Christmas party even better for everyone.

OK, here's a question for you: Now that we are starting the New Year, does anyone else do what I do? Mark all the upcoming events for the entire year on your new calendar??? You know, the President's Day Clam Dig, Underwater Easter Egg Hunt, Memorial Weekend Camping Trip, Channel Islands Boat Dive Trip, Thanksgiving Weekend, etc, etc, etc.). I really love the fact that we have **SOOOOOOOO** many great events to look forward to in 2010. That should make for another busy and very fun year.

Another thing to keep in mind for all you people with **TYPE A** personalities is that you don't have to just participate in these events.

If you are interested in **LEADING** one of the events (or starting a **NEW** event), feel free to discuss this with any one of the Board of Directors. Plus, you may want to start thinking about being a member of the Board of Directors. Our club's General Meeting Election Night takes place in **APRIL** and that's when we vote in our new Board of Directors. I consider this meeting to be one of the most important general meetings of the year. Plus, that's also when everyone gets **FREE PIZZA**.... So plan on being there!!!!

Hey, if you haven't sent in your abalone card yet... **DO IT NOW!!!!**

I look forward to seeing everyone at the next General Meeting on Wednesday January 20, 2010!

Happy New Year, ~Steve Volpicelli, President

## ~ MEETINGS ~

The starting time for General Meetings and Board Meetings is 7:30 pm. Members are welcome to attend all meetings. General Meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the Round Table Pizza, Greenback & Madison. You call 916- 989-1133 to order in advance And be sure to ask for the Dolphin Dive Club discount

**BOARD MEETINGS** are held on the 1st Wednesday of each month starting promptly at 7:00 in the evening. **ALL DDS MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND!** This month's Board Meeting will be held **Jan 6, 2010** and will be hosted by Sharon & Jimmie Clements. Please RSVP for Reservations & Directions call 916-606-2343 or email [sleepyjinx@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sleepyjinx@sbcglobal.net)

## ~DOLPHIN BIRTHDAY CLUB~

Steve Carrie 1/1	Al Couch 1/1
William Holman 1/7	Chelsea Landa 1/10
David Whiteside 1/12	Jack Millard 1/15
Dennis Wade 1/17	Jimmie Clements 1/28
Linda Permann 1/31	Jordon Taylor 1/31

## January Meeting Presentation

For our General Meeting in January, Dolphin Divers Life Member, Jack Millard will give a Fish Identification slide show presentation. Be sure not to miss this one. It promises to be both informative and entertaining.

## SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

If you know of anyone who is celebrating personal accomplishments, upcoming Weddings, Births, etc., or if you know of a club member who is in need of a little Sunshine please contact Sandi Stemple with information. "Sandi Sunshine" [sandibeatles@yahoo.com](mailto:sandibeatles@yahoo.com) By the way, Sandi is also the one who sends those DDS Birthday Greetings every month. Thank You Sandi, we greatly appreciate all your efforts.

## Dive Trip Reports

### San Clemente Island Dec 12, 2009

*By Karen Kessel*

It was just one of those trips that get planned months in advance, so you go no matter what, RIGHT?? As I packed my gear bag I noticed that the snow outside was accumulating fast. I didn't know that by the time I was ready to leave I would be driving away from frozen water pipes, downed trees, and a long list of "other problems" that would just have to wait. Dive trips come first.

My friend Gayle from San Diego and I were headed out on the Horizon to do a day of diving around San Clemente Island. There were only 14 divers on the boat, a combination of photographers and lobster hunters. I kept checking to see if the trip was going to be canceled due to the bad weather. The news reports were calling for all kinds of bad stuff, but the trip was a go. So off we went for a great day. Vis was about 50 feet, but the cloudy sky kept things pretty dark. Strong swells made getting up the ladder a bit tricky. I was using my new Canon G11 fisheye housing for the first time, so took it to depth without the camera on the first dive. Lucky for me that Gayle had her camera, as we saw a lot of great stuff.

Including a cave full of lobster (legal size too!) at the China Hat dive site. When we discovered that none of the hunters had found any lobsters that were legal, we promptly showed them the pictures!! Very cruel. I also had fun feeding kelp to the abalone. I had never seen them grab and eat kelp before, and didn't even know they would do this. But it attracted some voracious Sheepshead who thought I should be feeding them too. One of them followed me around and bit my fingers a couple of times. After two dives at China Hat we moved on to the Black Caves dive site. There we saw large numbers of Garibaldi, Half Moons, Blacksmiths, Rock fish and Senoritas. In smaller numbers were the Kelp Bass (calico), Kelp perch and Black eyed Gobies. Only one sighting of a nudibranch (a Navanax), but in all we listed 28 different fish and 10 different invertebrates.

All in all it proved to be a great trip in spite of the weather. Water temp was 58 degrees, so my 7ml wetsuit was just fine. I stick the heat packs down my back and I'm toasty warm. CVS now makes ones that are reusable, and they are perfect for diving cold water and enjoying it!

## SCRIPPS INSTITUTE OF OCEANOGRAPHY

Lecture Dec, 14, 2009

*By Karen Kessel*

While visiting San Diego this week, I attended a lecture at the Scripps Aquarium presented by three PhD candidates doing research on plastic debris in the Pacific Ocean. The name of their project is SEAPLEX, which stands for Scripps Environmental Accumulation of Plastics Expedition. They were aboard the 185 ft research vessel from Scripps, and went out to sea in an area that collected the highest amounts of floating trash. This area is about 1000 miles off the coast of Washington, and 1000 miles from Hawaii. They used several methods of collection, but basically dragged nets at the surface next to the ship. What they found was that most of the plastic debris had broken down into very small bits and was not a "floating island of garbage" but rather little pieces scattered everywhere, from near shore to the "middle of nowhere". They felt that this was worse, since it would be impossible to clean up, whereas a trash pile was at least locatable. But the other interesting thing about plastic is that it collects pollutant chemicals, not by absorption, but by "adsorption", which means that the chemicals cling to the outside of the plastic. Then, when eaten by fish, these chemicals then attach to the fat cells in the fish. And guess what? We then eat these fish that have absorbed this pollution. They had a list of the main chemicals found, most of them I had heard about, but DDT was a big one. And the higher up the food chain the fish is, the higher levels of absorbed chemicals. And their bodies do not "off load" these chemicals with time. Once in their systems they stay there. Much of their data still has to be analyzed, and a published report will be available when that is completed and compiled. All in all it was a very interesting lecture. The only thing they suggested we do is try and recycle ALL plastics and not let them go into landfills.

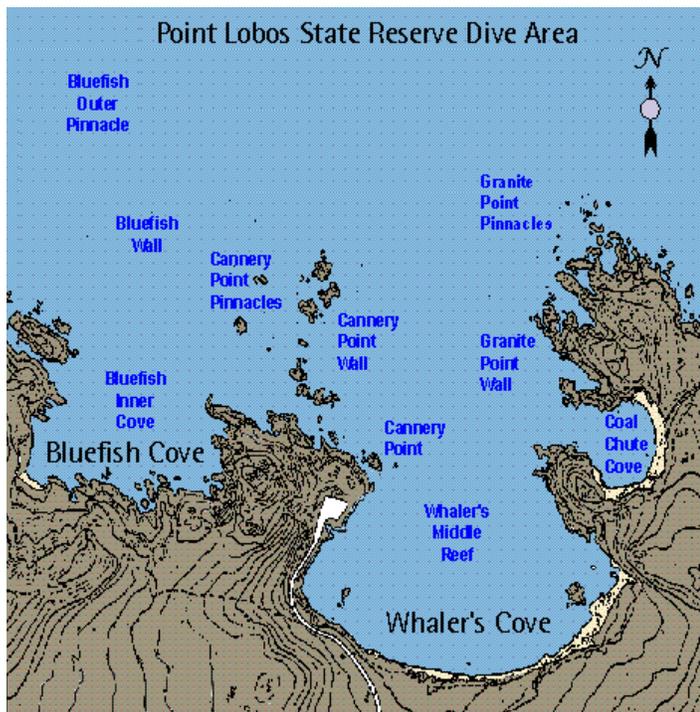
## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Point Lobos January 16

We managed to snag all of the 15 dive team spaces for Point Lobos on Saturday, January 16. As I write this all of the spaces are filled, but I can put you on a stand-by list. I will also be diving Point Lobos on Friday, January 15, but no reservations should be necessary. If you want to join me on Friday please let me know so we can arrange to meet Friday morning. 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 has new hours: They open the gates at 8:00 AM and close 1/2 hour after sunset. Because they are opening an hour earlier than in the past I will not be holding our usual pre-dive breakfast gathering, so that we can all get to the park when they open. 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, but 3 are possible as long as you watch your nitrogen loading. 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 birthday. ~ Jack



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. Please see the attached flier for more information and to sign up. I will post a map and directions on our web site and e-mail them to everyone who has signed up for this event. 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! 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 club group discount, reference contract #DOL0319) 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). ~Jack

## PRESIDENT'S DAY AT THE COAST February 13-15

Lisa and I are making plans to head for the coast to enjoy another President's Day weekend. This year we're moving to Casini Ranch on the Russian River, 10 minutes inland from Jenner. Beaches to walk are close. We plan to make our usual oyster run. Diving in the Fort Ross, Ocean Cove, and Salt Point areas isn't far off. We can also relax and enjoy the river. We'll reserve a group of sites...more about that on the group mail and at the January meeting. There's lots of information about Casini Ranch on their website...[casiniranch.com](http://casiniranch.com). E mail [fknoles@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fknoles@sbcglobal.net) if you have any questions. ~Fred and Lisa Knoles

## Easter Egg Hunt

### Saturday March 20



Our annual Underwater Easter Egg Hunt in Monterey will be on Saturday, March 20<sup>th</sup>. We are using some of our club funds to subsidize the event for everyone to make it easier for everyone to participate. If you ever wondered what the club does with your money here is where some of it goes. Adult meals will be subsidized by a little over \$10.00

each and children's meals will be subsidized even more! 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 9:45 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. In order to give everyone a fair chance to find an egg, only 2 (TWO) eggs may be found during the first 5 minutes after which the whistle will be blown again and you may collect as many as you can find. 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.

## Channel Islands 2010

We received the contract for our annual Channel Islands dive trip on the Conception for 4 days starting on Sunday, July 25 – Wednesday, July 28. Our cost has gone up but we are only passing some of it on to our members.

We will be diving Catalina Island for the first 3 days then one of the northern islands on the last day. As I write this only 2 spaces are open for this trip with a member cost of \$600.00. I also have a tentative reservation for the 3 days immediately after, Thursday, July 29 – Saturday, July 31, on the Conception. This entire trip will be in the northern islands and cost \$450.00. Several divers are signed up on both trips, but there are not enough divers signed up YET for the 3 day trip so I might have to cancel it. 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" ~ Jack Millard



## Christmas Party follow up

What a night it was, this year's Christmas party proved to be an incredible event and the largest turn out that we have had in about 4 years. The hors d'oeuvres seemed to be big hit and added to the social hour where everyone got to chat about the year's events and what it is still to come. There was a new DJ this year Rick Jenkins from Vision Entertain who helped to liven up our party and get people out on the dance floor. We had dancing till mid-night and the dance floor was packed. The Raffle this year was also a huge hit. As promised, all gifts had a \$20 or more value and the tickets were selling faster than we could get them on the floor. Congratulations to Paul Oulton who won the grand prize, a new 2010 Typhoon dry suit. The photos were all lined up from the Photo Contest and the big winners this year started with Craig Brookey for his mastery of underwater photography of a beautiful kelp scene. The Above Water photo winner went to Richard (Tate) Viehmann for capturing an amazing red sunset that light up the sky behind a small bush. The Open category was swept away by a black and white photo taken by Cayle Little of a sea turtle, this image was remarkable. All of our winners have quite an eye and certainly displayed it through their photographs. Thank you to all who participated in the Photo Contest, it was certainly a hard choice to make this year. This year's winner for Member of the Year went to Marlyn Sepulveda for all the hard work and dedication that has been given to the club. Marlyn will receive a free 2010 membership. Thank you to everyone who took the time to vote at the November meeting. Big Ab went to Richard Sears with a 9.576 abalone, who will receive his certificate at the January general meeting. Big Fish went to new member Dennis Garrison with his 14.7 pound Lingcod. Ken Takata took away the "unofficial" Small Ab with a 7.124 clicker. Thank you all who came out to celebrate with us at the Annual Christmas Party, we hope to see you all there along with those who couldn't make it, at next year's Christmas Party on December 4, 2010!

## CATALINA CLEAN-UP

**Saturday February 20, 2010**

This is the 29th Anniversary of the Avalon Harbor Underwater Cleanup. This premier dive event has grown to be one of the largest in Southern California. We expect approximately 550 divers from across California and neighboring states to join in this annual endeavor to clean Avalon's spectacular harbor of accumulated junk and lost overboard "treasures". Divers compete for the prizes we award or raffle in a ceremony after the dive. The proceeds from the event will benefit the Catalina Island Conservancy's Bob Given Ocean Conservation Fund and the Catalina Hyperbaric Chamber, a life support recompression chamber on Catalina that serves the thousands of divers who frequent the nearby waters.

In addition to the fun dive, we will have a lot of great prizes that we will be raffling and giving away at the afternoon award ceremony.

Please register online individually or as a group by going to: [www.catalinaconservancy.org](http://www.catalinaconservancy.org), and find the event registration page under "Join/Catalina Conservancy Divers."

All registered divers will receive a confirmation package of information regarding the dive prior to the event.

We hope you will be able to join us for the dive!! If you would like more information or have any questions, please feel free to contact the Conservancy at 310-510-2595 x 123, or e-mail at [avalonharborcleanup@gmail.com](mailto:avalonharborcleanup@gmail.com).

## -2010 TROPHY CORNER-

OK Gang – It's a brand new year so let the competition begin. Prizes, Trophies and Bragging rights are yours for the taking. "Big Ab – Big Fish 2010" Go get em!

## 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.

\* **Diver's Cove** (916) 984-6185 [www.diverscove.net](http://www.diverscove.net)

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

\* **Dolphin Scuba Center of Stockton** (209) 476-8188  
[www.dolphinsscuba.com](http://www.dolphinsscuba.com)

\* **Elk Grove Dive Shop** (916) 686-1122  
[www.elkgrovedive.com](http://www.elkgrovedive.com)

\* **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)  
**Sport Chalet** – [www.sportchalet.com](http://www.sportchalet.com)

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

## ~ GARAGE SALE ~

**Men's Large Wetsuit** 5/2 Very good condition. (5 mill over the chest area, 2 mill over the arm and legs.) It is a purchased new in 2004 from Dolphin Scuba Center, and only around 40 dives on it. Asking Only \$25. Please leave a message on our answering machine if no answer. Larry & Linda Permann 707-554-6438

**Women's Monterey Ti (Titanium) Farmer John Style Wet Suit** 7 mm thickness Size 12 short \$75. This wetsuit was purchased in 2006 and has less than 25 dives on it. It is in great shape, and as been stored inside in the guest closet. To see photos go to [www.reneerox.com/forsale.html](http://www.reneerox.com/forsale.html)  
You may contact me at: [renee@reneerox.com](mailto:renee@reneerox.com)

Have anything to **SELL – TRADE – GIVE AWAY?**

You can advertise **FREE** in the Bubbles. Just e mail the editor [cbrookey@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cbrookey@sbcglobal.net) with your ad before the sending deadline following the General Meeting and your ad will appear in the very next issue. Please limit to "Diving Related" items like Gear, Camera Equipment, Boats, Motors, Camping Gear, Etc.

## DONATE BLOOD & SAVE LIVES

WHEN YOU DONATE BLOOD TELL THEM THAT YOU ARE A MEMBER OF DOLPHIN DIVE CLUB. THEY WILL CREDIT YOUR DONATION TO OUR ACCOUNT (#3412) AND BENEFIT OTHER MEMBERS WHEN THEY NEED BLOOD. - CALL 1- 866-822-5663

