



# CURRENT BUBBLES

NEWSLETTER OF DOLPHIN DIVERS OF SACRAMENTO

P.O. Box 112

Orangevale, California 95662

<http://www.dolphindivers.org>

September 2015

## 2015/2016

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Lalaynia Little

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## President's Message

*Greetings Mates,*

*Captain Craig here with your monthly State of the Club report. ALL IS WELL!! Channel Islands trip was fun and went off without a hitch. Well, there was this one galley mate who abandoned ship at Avalon Harbor in the middle of the night but that didn't stop the rest of the crew from stepping up to the plate and dishing up some yummy meals and snacks throughout the trip. Love that crew!!! Sightings were made of the elusive, protected, 200+ pound Giant Black Sea Bass. Six were spotted on one dive and my dive buddy, Karen Kessel, was even able to capture an image of me next to one which gives you an idea of how big those guys really are. The dual DDS/ Seahorse Inland Lobster Feed was a big success also. A dozen or so divers enjoyed a low current drift under the Old Rainbow*

*Bridge. In the afternoon we had fun racing crawdads (Brooke will enter her winner in the Triple Crown next year) and lying about what they found on their dive. (Jerry King's pants were literally on fire). Good food and friendly conversations were everywhere and of course the mandatory barking dogs. At the pot luck we were even treated to some delicious Turkish Candies from the Cokgor family. Thank You. I love the diversity of our club. People from many walks of life and cultures interacting with the common ground of getting underwater and blowing bubbles. So now I am looking forward to Labor Day at Ocean Cove - yet another fun Dolphin Divers event. We are a busy organization that has not stopped since it began in 1981 and I like that.*

## 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:

**September 3 - Renee Viehmann 916-837-4973**

**October 7 - Kevin Kunkel 916-759-8195**

**General Meetings** 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 916-989-1133 to order in advance, be sure to ask for the Dolphin Dive Club Discount.

## DOLPHIN BIRTHDAY CLUB

Jerry Young 3<sup>rd</sup>, Gina Zayas 4th

Joe Lawson 7<sup>th</sup>, Ilkan Cokgor 8th

Ken Takata 9<sup>th</sup>, Holly Little 11th

Dianna Noyes 11<sup>th</sup>, Serena Caplins 13th

Larry Permann 28th

## CHANNEL ISLANDS DIVE TRIP

Another successful Channel Islands dive trip. Thirty two divers boarded the Conception Saturday evening for the start of our 28 annual dive charter. Our boarding technique worked so well last year that we tried it again: we all signed in on a list posted in the Sea Landing store as we arrived in the parking lot. Then we boarded in the order that we had signed in, avoiding the crunch on the dock of years past. A group of 5 divers from the bay area joined us this year so we enjoyed a nice mix of familiar and new buddies.

After loading our gear, signing the boat waivers and visiting with friends we filtered down to our bunks for the night.

It was a very smooth ride all night to our first Catalina dive site. The wind was blowing as we approached Ship Rock so we motored in toward shore and the protection of Catalina Island. The wind was pretty strong away from the island for most of our trip so all of our dives were next to the shoreline – but they were all GOOD! Our first dive was at Eagle Reef. The first thing I noticed when I jumped in was it was WARM! My gauge showed 72 degrees! Too warm for the kelp because the second thing I noticed was there was no kelp. One of the crew told me that kelp dies off above 71 degrees and with an El Nino condition it was warm around most of the islands. The visibility was between 20 and 40 feet on most dives, and the fish were abundant, so there was still lots to see.



Holger was the first in the water and he surfaced before I was ready to jump in. He had found several anchors scattered not far from the boat and he wanted to bring a nice stainless steel “delta” style up on the next dive. I told him he could borrow my lift bag when he went in for it.

I found the anchor between some big rocks with a lot of nice galvanized chain attached. I thought I would help Holger by winding the chain around the anchor shank. While I was doing this ken and Brad stopped to watch me. I tried to use gestures to explain that my lift bag was coming. Obviously I am not very good at communicating underwater because I watched in amazement at Brad took off his fins, handed them

to Ken, then picked up the anchor and ran with it back to the Conceptions anchor while dodging rocks on the bottom. Earning him the new nickname “runs in water”. Ken, Holger and I were in hot pursuit but we could barely keep up with Brad as he sprinted along the bottom. Unfortunately it all happened so fast no one had time to grab a camera and film his escapade. After Brad dropped the anchor I helped (or hindered, depending on your viewpoint) Holger while he inflated my bag and lifted the anchor to the surface. I told Holger I would like the chain and he said “fine”. “I only want the anchor because it is worth about \$500 on ‘Craigslist’”.

Our next dive site was the “old Rock Quarry”. There was some kelp here, but nothing like



our previous visits to the site. What was new were some Scythe Butterflyfish that have moved in with the warmer water. In the shallows baby Garibaldi and Blacksmith were everywhere.

Other memorable dives include Goat Harbor where we have consistently found the Giant Black Seabass. We were not disappointed. I jumped in second (right after Holger) and headed straight down to the bottom under the boat at 65 feet. SEVEN of the big fish were patiently waiting for me to join them. WOW!!! I spent a few minutes communing with them before surfacing to tell everyone else that I found them and where. I think everyone sped up their preparations to jump in, but I didn’t stick around to watch because I wanted to spend more time with the Bass alone.

Karen took this photo of Craig by one of the fish to give an idea of how big they are:

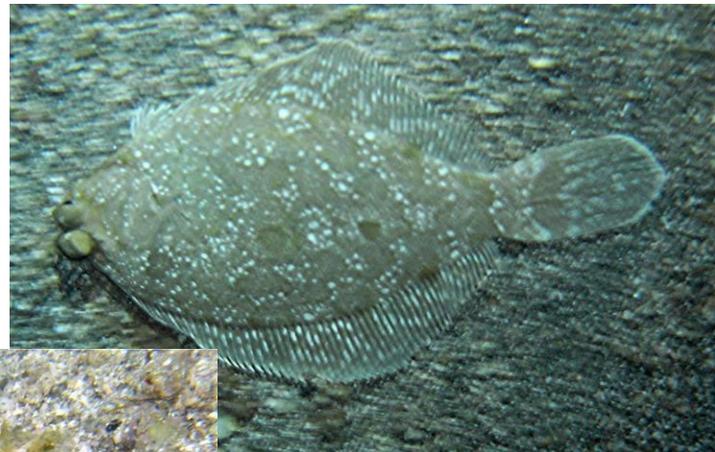




to hold the cost to members as \$625.00 pp. 24 members have already paid deposits or full payments for next year!! I hope you can join us. Jack



We made two night dives on different nights (I only made the first one, in Reflective Cove). We saw many octopus foraging along the sand with lobsters wandering everywhere! Several small rays, a small Horn shark, and a small Peacock Flounder were also fluttering along the sand bottom.



The crew did a wonderful job of taking care of us the entire trip. The galley assistant quit on our second day so another crew member pitched in and helped the lead cook prepare WONDERFUL meals for us. They fed us gourmet meals including a full turkey dinner. They also did an EXCELLENT job of keeping the candy bowl full of chocolates ☺ I gained several pounds from all of the good food and chocolate ☺



We motored back north to Santa Cruz Island for our last dive day. Where we finally found some kelp beds, but even here the water was 70 degrees.

Our ride back to Santa Barbara from Santa Cruz Island was as flat as it gets and several pods of dolphins accompanied us some of the way.

A few of us met in Buellton for the night and to share a last dinner before driving home Thursday.

We have already booked our 2016 trip for Saturday, July 23 – Wednesday the 27<sup>th</sup>. For the third year in a row we are able



# Lake Natoma Inland Lobster Feed

The annual dive and picnic at Lake Natoma was another fun event. Brad and Ken helped me set out the traps that Holger



loaned us Friday afternoon. Saturday morning Brad, Ken, Tom and Jerry all showed up early to help me set up and hold



our space and tables. There were only 8 divers this year geared up at 9:00 to head up the lake to dive. I had my boat and Craig, Will and Jim all brought theirs so we had LOTS of

boat space. Teri had organized a group of kayakers and paddle boarders while we dove so we passed them on our way to the drop point.

After the dive Jerry helped pull the traps and they were



FULL. Too full. We saved the 50 largest crawdads and let the rest go. FYI: cheap salmon cat food was the best bait. Back at the picnic area Brad and Corinne had been busy grilling



hamburgers and hot dogs while boiling a batch of sweet corn on the cob. I set up an area to race

crawdads and the adults grabbed one and put it in the middle. Brooke must have promised hers a pardon because it raced across the line to finish first. There was only one child at the event this year so she won a prize by default. Next was the Liars contest where divers told tales about the booty they found on the bottom. Silver tongue Jerry came up with a convoluted tale about kissing a mermaid and all their adventures together so he won the prize.

As soon as we finished the contests the crawdads were dropped in the pot, the potluck food was uncovered – and we all pigged out.

- Jack



Wow!  
Right around the Corner!  
GOOD TIMES TO COME!

## Dolphin Divers Labor Day Event

### Neon Nights

Location: Ocean Cove  
September 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>

Looking forward to seeing the people who signed up for  
the yearly event.

Event Captain: Marilyn Campbell



### **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.

### **\*2015 TROPHY CORNER\***

**BIG FISH:**  
**BIG AB:**  
**Small Ab:**



New DDS member **James Scharlack** went abalone diving for the first time with Steve Campbell at Ocean Cove. **Congratulations!**  
Quote: Dive into a new learning adventure

### GARCU time again!

The Great American River Clean Up takes place on Sept. 19th. Once again, we will float, boat, and dive our way down the American River pulling out all kinds of trash and.....sometimes treasure! Along with all the aluminum cans, bottles, and plastic containers, we often find cameras, phones, watches and all sorts of lost items. You never know what you will pull up. Sometimes the cameras or phones are not waterproof and get tossed away. But quite often, a phone in a waterproof case or a waterproof camera show up. Last year we had a couple of each brought to the surface. The lucky divers had big smiles and bragging rights for the trip.

American River Raft Rentals will donate up to 10 rafts to help in our efforts. We can handle about 40 divers and non-divers. Once we get to 40 participants, we will cut off the signups. We are half way there already. If you want to get in on the fun and sun, let me know and I will add you to our list.

We start our trip near the Sunrise Bridge and finish at River Bend Park about 5

hours later. A short lunch is taken at the San Juan Rapids. I expect the water temp to be in the low to mid 60's. Vis around 8 to 10 ft. For the non-divers, you get what you get. We have had high winds and rain.....or bright sunny skies with temps over 100.

So, anyone that wants to go and has not signed up, let me know your plans. Once I get to 40 people, I am going to shut down the signups.

Thanks for your help and see you on the water.

Brad Freelove



## Garage Sale

High pressure steel 80 \$150.00 - din valve  
Contact Penny Johnson 916-205-5619 I can have it converted to yoke if necessary.

Wanted- dive boat: something 14 feet +/- with a 2 or 4 stoke motor 20hp or more. In good condition and with a trailer is a plus. Contact Tim 916.716.4647.

## 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)

## 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.dolphinscuba.com](http://www.dolphinscuba.com)

\* **Fish Eye Scuba** (916) 850-1145  
[www.fisheyescuba.com](http://www.fisheyescuba.com)

\* **Scuba World** (916) 332-8294  
[www.scubaworld.com](http://www.scubaworld.com)

