



2011-2012

Board of Directors

President

Brad Freelove
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Vice President

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Past President

Dana Carlson

Members at Large

Andy Din
Bill Holman
Cayle Little
Debby Millard
Jamie Sepulveda
Sierra Nguyen

2010-11 board members.

New members will be appointed at the next board meeting.

Promotions Chair

Tracy Clarke
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Newsletter Editor

Holly Little
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Webmaster

Mark Takata
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Historian

Jack Millard
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CURRENT BUBBLES

Newsletter of Dolphin Divers of Sacramento

P.O. Box 112

Orangevale, California, 95662

May, 2011

<http://www.dolphindivers.org>



President's Message

Well, another group of Dolphin Divers has taken the plunge and are now the newest board of Dolphin Divers of Sacramento. Many thanks to the old board for their hard work and dedication. Many of the new board were on the last. Yes, it can be that much fun. You get to meet most if not all the members. You get to help plan events. You get to "get involved!" This will be my fourth year in a row for being a member of the board. Not a lot when you consider that Jack Millard has been on the board starting since dinosaurs walked the earth. As a board member, you get to learn some of the history of the club. How it was started. Who started it. What it was like in the early years. You get to see how the club spends it's time and money. You sweat over some details and laugh over others. You learn

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~Meetings~

General meetings start at 7:30 pm, and are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at Round Table Pizza, 9500 Greenback Lane (at Madison). 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 the month, at a board members house. All members are welcome to attend all meetings, however we ask that you call the host to RSVP. Board meetings start at 7:00 pm.

This month's board meeting will be held on February 2nd, and is hosted by Carmen Young. Please call to RSVP and for directions.

May 4th: Jack Millard
916-987-1303

June 1st: TBA

Welcome New Members:

Tai Pham
Mark Naber
Dalton McGuire Jr.

Dolphin Birthday Club

5/4: Karen Manly
5/5: Corinne Fuerst
5/8: Curtis Landa
5/12: Genna Scott
5/27: Maridee Green
Marlyn Sepulveda

(Continued from page 1)

that it is not just one or two people making decisions for the rest of us. It is a group of people with a variety of life experiences doing what they believe is best for the rest of us. Not always right but dog gone close most of the time. Am I proud to be a member of this club? Yes I am. I can remember when the big local club was the McCellan Aquakights and the big dive shop was Diver's Cove just off of Madison Ave. Sacramento was just a little spot on the map then. We are now one of the largest clubs in northern California. This club, our club, represents some of the best people in town. Divers, water lovers and people that get involved in helping others as well as having fun. From MLPA meetings to Christmas Promise to the Great American River Cleanup to a cure for cancer. We get involved. I am most proud of our involvement in things other than diving.

Board meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month. Each meeting is announced via email and the Bubbles. All are welcome. Come and listen. If you want to get something mentioned at a board meeting, let a board meeting know. If it is appropriate and needs our help or attention, we will listen. You may not get the answer you want but you did get involved.

A special thanks to Dana and Craig, our departing president and vice president. The time and effort that they put into the club last year was great. Guess who gets to Round Table early and sets up the equipment for the general meetings? Thanks for that Dana. Craig has his hands in the Crab Feed and other events. Dana and son helped out on the river clean up last year. They will help out on this years event as well....and the Crab feed. Thanks to you guys for all your work.

Well, time to get off the soap box and send this in to Holly. She has to wait until the last minute to get this stuff from all of us. Then, she makes it look good. Then, off it goes to the general membership via email or Craig prints out and mails copies to those of us still living in the past. Yes, I know that it is almost 5 pm Holly. Sorry.

Brad Freelove

Sunshine Committee

If you know of a club member in need of some sunshine, please contact our sunshine committee chair, Meridee Green at (916) 722-7665 or Imgreen@comcast.net

\$plit the Pot

The split the pot went to the "Every 15 Minutes" program for Las Plumas High School in Oroville. The donated money will help fund the food needed for the teens retreat. The winner for split the pot, Dave Ford, donated half of his winnings, and a very big thanks to him. Thank you to everyone who came to the meeting and helped support this cause. This seemed to hit home for a lot of people that attended, and thank you for sharing your stories.

Think Safety!

DIVE SAFETY

By Karin Brookey - Safety Officer

Certified Scuba Divers have had many hours of training and practice and a lot of emphasis is placed on Safe Diving Practices. Some basic precautions you should take for safe diving are:

- Have an agreed plan for every dive, including where you expect to go, how you will manage your air supply and what you and others will do if something unexpected happens (common problems are getting low on air, getting lost or losing your buddy).
- Do not dive alone. Although some "experienced" divers choose to dive alone, (Solo Diving) it is always a good idea to dive with a partner (a "buddy") who will stay close to you. Always carry a second regulator (pony bottle or safe second) you can lend a buddy if they are out of air. Remember that a buddy who is not in reach in an emergency or who is not competent or willing to assist is no buddy at all, and that a buddy has no legal obligation to assist if it

may endanger him or herself to do so. Do not allow the dive operator to pair you with someone whom you could not assist or who would not be able to assist you.

- Do not dive in unfamiliar conditions without an orientation from a suitably competent person, or you may find your skills are not adequate to the task. This is a common problem for divers who are accustomed to warm, calm water and find themselves under stress the first time they dive in cold rough water, or in a current.
- Do not dive in unfamiliar areas without a guide or appropriate orientation. Do some introductory dives or a dive orientation with a Divemaster or diver with local experience.
- Do not dive outside your training and experience, for example, diving deeper than you trained for, or diving in confined spaces such as caves when you're only certified for open water.
- Do not dive with unfamiliar equipment except in very easy conditions, where any problems can be sorted out without major inconvenience or risk. Get your weights sorted out in shallow water, make sure the regulator has no leaks, and that the BC fits properly before going on a deep dive. Many divers have no idea of how much weight they will need with an unfamiliar exposure suit, and almost none will get it right first time.
- Do not dive when impaired by fatigue, drugs or alcohol.
- If diving in a group led by a guide, do not neglect your own planning and air management and if necessary plan to ascend early without the guide. Divemasters vary in skill, but even the best will not substitute for taking responsibility for yourself.
- If you feel overly anxious about the dive, or feel you may not be fully qualified for the conditions, you have the absolute, unconditional right to end the dive without having to justify your decision. Ultimately, you are responsible for deciding if any particular dive is right for you.
- Check the air you will be breathing. It should have no smell or taste and should leave no mark when passed through a white cloth. These tests, if passed, do not guarantee that there are no contaminants, but if failed, don't breathe it. If you have any doubt, ask the shop to show you the latest air quality test results. Some places may not require this to be available, in which case a look at the compressor installation can tell you a lot. If the operator refuses to give

this information, decide for yourself whether it is a good idea to stake your life on their product. Some countries have legal standards for minimum breathing air quality. These include USA, Canada, EU countries, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand. Some other countries do not. Portable testing equipment is available for the most important contaminants, but it is quite expensive. It is a matter of what your life is worth to you, and what risks you accept. When booking, ask about air testing and quality control.

- Dive with reputable and competent operators. Find out beforehand what the qualifications are of their Skippers and Divemasters, and what emergency facilities are available. You can still choose to dive with a less than ideal operation, but it is then an informed choice. Litigation after the accident is a waste of time and money in some parts of the world.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your club Safety Officer during the past year. I hope that you will all have another great year of safe diving in the upcoming dive season. ~ Karin

Past Events

Ab Opener, April 1 - 3

The wind blew, the waves flew,
while most of us watched from shore.

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conditions. It was far too rough in the deeper water for tank diving and the waves were rolling in on shore enough that our Safety Officer called off the ab dive as a club dive, but a few hardy souls ventured into the water, anyway, to try their luck. Those of us who stayed dry (and warm) on shore watched as Minh Nguyen, Richard Sears and Maridee Green swam out to try their luck close to shore. Jimmy and Brent Clements waded into the water, too, but Jimmy's weight belt dropped to his knees and he was hit by a breaking wave so he and Brent waddled back up the beach resolved to try again another day. We could see

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Minh, Richard and Maridee repeatedly go down and their efforts were all rewarded with a few abalone. When they were back on shore they reported visibility of only a few feet.

This was a combined event for both the Dolphin Dive Club and the Seahorses Dive Club, and there was a good turnout from both groups. Most of us were camping at Pomo Campground where we took advantage of the club house for another phenomenal pot-



luck that included some of the abalone caught that morning – YUM! There were 36 people at the dinner, and four of them were celebrating birthdays! As always the food was plentiful and EXCELLENT!

Sunday morning the intrepid divers went out again. There was more hunting success reported, but the visibility was even worse. Big abalone for the weekend: Minh Nguyen 8.29 inches, Richard Sears 8.22 inches.



Thank you everyone who came for making the weekend a lot of fun, and for contributing to the potluck!
Jack Millard

Future Events

Monterey Squid Dive

I have cancelled the planned squid dive in Monterey. Not enough divers responded to make the trip feasible, and I had a difficult time getting in contact with the charter boat captain. I'll try again next year. Jack

Fins for the Cure 2011

Hi Everybody,
Fins for the Cure was formed 3 years ago in order to raise breast cancer awareness in the greater Sacramento SCUBA community as



more and more women were diagnosed with breast cancer amongst the local SCUBA clubs. Thankfully most of them are survivors.

As in years past, Fins will run in the 15th annual Susan G. Komen Sacramento Race for the Cure. So far our

team is 17 members strong and has raised \$1,596.00 towards local breast health and breast cancer awareness - our goal is to raise \$5000 by May 7 - Race Day.



Even though you can no longer join the team, there is still plenty of time to donate to the team. Details on how to donate to the Team are listed below. Our Team greatly appreciates any donation - no matter how small or how large. Should you prefer to donate by check, please mail your check payable to Susan G. Komen Sacramento to 4460 Cavitt Stallman Road, Granite Bay, CA 95746.

To donate, please go to:

http://sacramento.info-komen.org/site/TR/RacefortheCure/EDH_SacramentoAffiliate?px=8974444&pg=personal&fr_id=2085

We greatly appreciate the support you have shown us again this year and in years past.

Thank you,
~ Corinne
Team Captain



Memorial Weekend 2011 May 28-30

Albion River Campground will be the location of this year's Memorial Day event. Right now, all 13 sites reserved for DDS have been taken. If you would like to join us, you will need to contact Albion River Campground directly. You can reach them via albioncg@mcn.org or Phone: 707-937-0606. Let them know that you are with Dolphin Divers and they will do their best to get you close to us. Starting on that Saturday, we will have a social hour where you can present your favorite munchies for all to sample. On Sunday, there will be ice cream for the kids. Leftovers will be eaten by the adults. Sunday night a potluck will take place. If the weather and water gods have been kind to us, expect abalone for dinner. If you have any questions, please contact: Charlie Rojas 22rojasc@sbcglobal.net or Brad Freelove brad.freelove@yahoo.com

Father's Day at Ocean Cove (June 18 and 19)

Once again, Charlie Rojas presents his Father's Day weekend at Ocean Cove Campground. We have group site 3 reserved and 4 families have already signed up for this event. A potluck will be held Saturday night. Bring your favorite abalone recipe along as there will be abalone. As with our world famous Labor Day Event, the little blue rooms will be cleaned daily. This is always a fun event that is very relaxed. If you have never stayed at Ocean Cove Campground and would like more information about this event, please contact:

Charlie Rojas 22rojasc@sbcglobal.net or
Brad Freelove brad.freelove@yahoo.com

DDS Annual Crab Feed July 16

July Crab Feed Reborn (July 16)

Dolphin Divers has brought back to life the July Crab Feed. After two years of hibernation, we will once again have an unlimited supply of crab, salad, pasta and bread for you to pig out on! Scheduled for July 16, 2011 at Rudy's Hideaway and Lobster House, tickets are \$45.00 each. There will be a no-host bar, DJ and raffle. If you are going to be in town and are looking for something special to do that night, get a couple of tickets. You can reserve a whole table with the purchase of 8 tickets.

Contact Craig Brookey, Brad Freelove or Ken Takata if you have questions or want to get your tickets now.

Ab Diver Special Events!

Yes, I love to freedive. Probably more than SCUBA. And I am not alone in the club with the freediving thing. Dolphin Divers has several events each year that allow members to have fun freediving. They are loads of fun. If you have not yet tried freediving, ask around. We can get you started. If you are an experienced freediver or want to learn more from some of the best, think about getting involved with one or more of the competitions that take place on our northern coast. You can contact either myself or Richard Sears if you would like more information. The following is a list of the 4 that I am aware of:

- June 11 - The Big Ab/Big Ling Contest at Manchester. Weather can be a problem for this one but they have the best tshirt design for any of the contests.
- August 20 - S.C.A.N. Tournament at Ocean Cove. Great weather and a lot of fun. This event raises money for S.C.A.N., the guys that protect your ability to take abs in this state.
- September 17 - The Triton X Open...aka the Freedive Open...aka the Picasso Open...Caspar Beach. I have only been to this event once. It is a tough one. Includes spearfishing on a points basis with specie as well as size a factor. Some of the best divers in the world are known to show up for this one. Sponsored by the Freedive Shop in West Sacramento. If it is freediving related, they have it or can get it.
- October 8 - The Randy Fry Event at Ocean Cove. Always a great time of the year and an even better group of divers. Money ends up with S.C.A.N. Last year there were several divers from the club there. A third place plaque went home with one of them. No, he did not steal it.....he won it!

If you are aware of more, let me know and I will add them to my list. There will also be a couple one-day ab dashes this year. Holger started this a couple years ago. We end up on a boat someplace looking for big ones in shallow water. Ken Takata promises to let loose with one of his prize spots this year. The rest is up to you. When we get close to better weather, a date will be set and a trip planned. Does not always happen on a weekend so expect to have a one-day flu or something to get out of work.

If you want to see how big abs can get, visit sites.google.com/site/abaloneten/tendivers.

Contact Brad Freelove or Richard Sears if you would like more information.

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. The following shops honor the free air fills on the back of your membership cards:

- **Dolphin Scuba Center:** (916) 929-8188
- **Dolphin Scuba Center of Stockton:** (209) 476-8188
www.dolphinscuba.com
- **Elk Grove Dive Shop:** (916) 686-1122 www.elkgrovedive.com
- **Fish Eye Scuba:** (916) 850-1145 www.fisheyescuba.com
- **Scuba World** (916) 332-8294 www.scubawroldsacto.com

Dolphin Divers of Sacramento is a non-profit organization not affiliated with any dive shops, but we do support dive shops listed.

Garage Sale

Have anything to [sell, trade, give away](#)?
You can advertise for FREE in the bubbles.

2011 Trophy Corner

[Big AB: Could be you!](#)

[Big Fish: Could be you!!](#)



DOLPHIN DIVERS OF SACRAMENTO

May

- 4th: Board Meeting Jack Millard (916) 987-1303
 - 7th: Race for the cure
 - 13-14th: Squid Dive, Monterey: Jack Millard (916) 987-1303
 - 18th: General meeting, Round Table Pizza
- 28-30: Memorial weekend. Albion River Camp-ground. Charlie Rojas 22rojasc@sbcglobal.net or Brad Freelove brad.freelove@yahoo.com

June

- 1st: Board meeting, location TBA
 - 15th: General meeting, Round Table Pizza
- 17-19th: Fathers Day Weekend, Ocean Cove
Brad: brad.freelove@yahoo.com

July

- 6th: Board meeting, location TBA
- 16th Crab feed Rudy's hideaway Brad: brad.freelove@yahoo.com
- 20th: General meeting, picnic in the park
Fair Oaks Park

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