

# *the* **PRIMARY REGULATOR**

San Diego Dive Club Newsletter  
www.dive-club.org



*December 2003*

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

### **Olè!**

Well, I just got back from the Club's 2<sup>nd</sup> Costa Rica trip and what an adventure! We went scuba diving, horse back riding in Los Inocentes, white water rafting on the Sarapiquí river, zip-line canopy touring at "Witches Rock", sitting in the hot springs at the Tabacon resort 2 KM from the Arenal Volcano, eating, shopping, volcano eruption watching, hiking to incredible waterfalls. By the time you read this newsletter I should have a few photos posted to the club's web site.

I have to admit that the diving isn't anywhere near as good as other warm water locations but heck, you're there so why not do it?

I think the highlights for me were sitting and watching the volcano erupt at night, sitting in the hot springs at the Tabacon resort, getting a massage at the resort and the zip-line canopy tour.

The Arenal volcano is the world's most active volcano since 1986. You can sit on a hill about 2 KM from the volcano and watch it spit out lava and run down the side of the volcano. You can even hear the eruptions and boulders crashing down. If the volcano should erupt you would only have about three minutes to get away. Fortunately the volcano is stable as long as it continues to erupt slowly.

I'll try to put together some photos and video to show at a future club meeting. We will definitely go back to Costa Rica again!

Now let's get down to club business. We still need volunteers for the Dec. 6th underwater Santa photo shoot and toy drive. Please call Peggy Petschek if you'd like to help out at (619) 669-3684.

**Cont on page 5**

## **AT OUR NEXT MEETING**

### **INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

- Club Information
- December Calendar
- Community Information
- Future Events
- Scripps Collection

**Wed., Dec. 3, 2003 7:00 pm**

(see page 8 for meeting location)

### **Fish Collection**

**Scripps Institution of Oceanography  
Professor Philip Hastings, Ph.D.**

Join us to learn about the Marine Vertebrates Collection (Fish Collection) at Scripps Institution of Oceanography. Professor Philip Hastings, Ph.D., Marine Biology Research Division, and Curator of the Marine Vertebrates Collection will be our guest speaker.

— Jeff Feldbaum, Entertainment Coordinator

## Club Information

### *President*



**Steve Anderson**

unclesteve@cox.net  
(619) 462 - 3439

### *Vice President*



**Scott Brown**

Lsbrol@mindspring.com  
(858) 560-6755

### *Treasurer*



**Peggy Petschek**

pegemailL1@aol.com  
(619) 669-3684

### *Secretary*



**Jennifer Petit**

jpetit01@san.rr.com  
(858) 272-1094

### *Entertainment Coordinator*



**Jeff Feldbaum**

southofla@yahoo.com  
(760) 931-0704

### *Community Representative*



**Rich Burns**

sddiver@cts.com  
(619) 697-6589

### *Dive Coordinator*



**Hunza Kotas**

Hunza@cox.net  
(619) 749-8435 (home)

### *Club Historian*



**Mike Petschek**

mpets1@sbcglobal.net  
(619) 843-8817

### *Equipment Coordinator*



**Steve Fellet**

s.fellet@worldnet.att.net  
(858) 560-5645

### *Store Representative*

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### *Publicity Representative*



**Barbara Bolton**

barbara.bolton@donning.com  
(760) 944-7791

## *Membership*

Enjoy the many benefits of being a member of the club. Joining is simple. Fill out an application at a club meeting. First years dues are \$30.00. Renewing membership is \$20.00. Renewals are not accepted at the store or through the mail. If you have a question regarding membership, lost cards, or you're not receiving your newsletters, contact the Vice president.

### *Membership Benefits*

- 10% discount on non-sale dive gear
- 10% discount on dive gear rentals
- 10% on continuing education classes
- 1/2 price air fills, first 10 are free
- Quarterly buddy lists
- Comprehensive and informative monthly newsletter
- Entertaining and informative monthly meetings
- Monthly scheduled club dives
- Meet new friends & dive buddies
- Group travel to exotic diving locations
- Ocean, lake and beach cleanup events
- Special members only events
- Fantastic monthly and quarterly raffles

### *Monthly Raffles*

Tickets may be purchased at each meeting for that night's raffle prizes.

### *Sport Chalet Stores*

- Pt. Loma  
(619) 224-6777
- La Jolla  
(858) 453-5656
- Mission Valley  
(619) 718-7070

### *Sport Tours*

(800) 660-2754  
FAX (818) 249-8877

### *Club Website*

[www.dive-club.org](http://www.dive-club.org)

### *Quarterly Raffles*

Save your losing tickets for the quarterly meeting when we draw a grand prize from the losing tickets of that night and the two previous meetings. Quarterly raffle months are:

**January, April, July, October**

## *Newsletter Submissions*

If you have something of interest that you would like to share with other members of the club (cartoons, articles, dive log, etc.), submissions for the newsletter may be made in the following manner:

### **US Mail:**

San Diego Dive Club  
P.O. Box 81678  
San Diego, CA 92138-1678

**Phone:** (619) 225-9051

**E-mail:** pbrooks2@cox.net

**Deadline for all submissions is the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.**

## CLUB EVENTS CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3 Club Meeting 7:00	4	5	6 Underwater Santa
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 Officers' Meeting 6:30 PM	18	19	20  Hanukkah
21	22	23	24	25  Christmas	26	27
28	29	30	31	<b>December 2003</b> <b>Events Calendar</b>		

We went out Saturday to explore a site in Del Mar. I'd never done a dive in Del Mar, so I was looking forward this. The site is a series of large rocks stretching North to South off of Powerhouse Park.

There were 8 of us who headed out. The surf was a hip slapper, but nothing to really be concerned about. Got through it easily. We dropped down in about 15 feet, right on top of our first rock and quickly found several lobsters. We continued heading west until we hit 2000psi or about 20 feet investigating each rock as we came across them. Then turned North until we ran out of rocks to investigate. So we came East slightly and headed South again to find new rocks. Played around on these until we decided to head back in, East.

I was pleasantly surprised by what I was able to find. Lobsters run amuck here. But not being a hunter, I didn't tell the others when I saw a really huge one and there were many huge ones! I spent my time peering into nooks and crannies and holes and under ledges. And OH! What a find. I found 3 Octopus (or is that octopi) of very good size. One was out on the underside of a ledge, the other 2 were tightly tucked into their holes. I must have seen at least a baker's dozen of navanax, but interestingly all were smallish from 2-4". Found a very small hermisinda, flatworms, gobies and I was surprised to find a couple of yellow fringeheads about 2" long, a bit on the small side. There were the usual sand bass and perch and another silvery swimmer schooling. Came across a Sole and a few hermit crabs. There were also a few species of interesting sponges (I think sponges) that I haven't been able to identify. So, quite a little treasure in this relatively unused shallow dive spot.

Max. Depth: 23feet

Time: 61minutes Temp: 63F, very comfortable

Viz: 15ft. with light surge

I dove with a steel 72 and had 1200psi at the end, my buddy (a large man) dove with Al 80 and had 700psi at end. So ladies out there, this is a good dive for the smaller tank since it is so shallow. You'll still get a good long dive!

Directions: Powerhouse Park is located in Del Mar at 15th and Coast. On Coast Blvd, just north of the RR tracks, there is a passenger loading pullout. Use this to dump your gear in the park and then go find parking. There is pay parking, metered parking, and a couple blocks further down, free street parking. You'll notice at the south end of the park a ramp that goes down to the beach. Almost straight out from there you'll see a buoy in the water. This marks the North end of the rock reef. We went down the ramp 50yds or so South and entered the water. You don't need to swim very far. We lined ourselves up with the big brown house on the cliff and dropped down after about 5 minutes of surface swim.

General Dive Plan used: Head west to 2000psi, then North to 1000psi then east to come up. If while heading north you hit nothing but sand, you may have run out of rocks, turn back South to finish playing around or as we did, East then South to hit new rocks. This brought us up directly in front of the ramp for our return to the park!

Note: I've been told that viz. is often very poor here. So look for a calm day and good dive reports everywhere else. If its a really good day for surfers, it probably isn't for divers. When we went, it was a moderate day for surfers and divers alike.

Kathy Bouic



## Scuba Charters December 2003

Reservations can be made at any Sport Chalet or with the Scuba Reservation office at

**800-348-3794.**

Date	Boat	Destination	Price	Board	Depart	Return	Additional Charges
06-Dec	Encore	Santa Barbara	\$ 115	12/5,10pm	1:00 AM	6:00 PM	N/A
06-Dec	Great Escape	Catalina	\$ 95	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	6:00 PM	N/A
06-Dec	Pacific Star	Catalina	\$ 95	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	5:30 PM	N/A
06-Dec	Spectre	S.Cruz / Anacapa	\$ 78	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	5:30 PM	Food & Air Fills
07-Dec	CeeRay	Catalina	\$ 90	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	5:30 PM	N/A
07-Dec	Horizon	San Clemente	\$ 125	12/5,9 pm	10:00 PM	9:00 PM	N/A
07-Dec	Island Time	Catalina-2 tank	\$ 78	7:30 AM	8:00 AM	2:00 PM	Personal food ok
07-Dec	Lois Ann	2 Wreck,1 Night	\$ 85	1:30 PM	2:00 PM	8:00 PM	N/A
13-Dec	Encore	Catalina	\$ 95	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	5:30 PM	N/A
13-Dec	Great Escape	San Clemente	\$ 115	12/12,10p	1:00 AM	6:30 PM	N/A
13-Dec	Island Time	Catalina-2 tank	\$ 78	7:30 AM	8:00 AM	2:00 PM	Personal food ok
13-Dec	Pacific Star	Catalina	\$ 95	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	5:30 PM	N/A
14-Dec	Blue Escape	Kelp beds-2 tank	\$ 75	6:30 AM	7:00 AM	11:30 AM	N/A
14-Dec	CeeRay	Catalina	\$ 90	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	5:30 PM	N/A
14-Dec	Great Escape	Catalina	\$ 95	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	6:00 PM	N/A
14-Dec	Spectre	S.Cruz / Anacapa	\$ 78	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	5:30 PM	Food & Air Fills

Trip Dates, Boats, Destinations and Charter Prices are subject to change without Notice.

**The Club needs a Store Representative. If you work in one of the local Sport Chalet Stores and would like to help out contact Steve Anderson**

### *Dive Club T-Shirts*

The club has T-Shirts printed with the "New" dive club logo on them. These will be available at the next few dive club meetings until supplies are exhausted. We have short sleeve grey and yellow shirts for \$13-. We also have long sleeve white T-shirts available for \$15-. The shirts are available in sizes small through 3xl, so there is something for everyone.

## President's Message Cont.

*(cont. from pg 1)*

We are also looking for underwater digital photographers. If you would like to use your own camera please bring at least two memory chips and two sets of batteries. Also, please bring some means to charge your camera batteries. I (Steve Anderson) will bring my laptop and memory chip interface device so I can transfer your photos from your chip. I will also have two HP small photo printers.

Please come to the event and bring your friends, family and co-workers.

Our next club meeting is Wednesday, Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm at the UTC Canyon room.

I hope you have a safe and wonderful Hanukah and a Merry Christmas!

*Steve Anderson - President*

## At Our Last Meeting

At our last meeting.....

Herb Gruenhagen, president of the San Diego Underwater Photographic Society presented some wonderful underwater images of our local waters.

Thanks Herb! Hopefully you'll bring some of your UPS members to our U/W Santa toy drive.

### **San Diego Dive Club Officers' Meeting**

Have some ideas and suggestions on the direction the dive club should be heading? Come share those ideas with the club officers. All members are encouraged to participate in the San Diego Dive Club Officers' Meetings. The Officers' Meeting will be held at **6:30 PM** on the **3rd Wednesday** of each month at the **Spice House Cafe at 9035 Clairemont Mesa Blvd.** The next meeting will be **Dec. 17**. The officers of the club try to anticipate the needs, desires and best interests of the club, but remember that this is your club too, and we need your new thoughts and ideas to keep the club fun and exciting.

## Community Information

### **The San Diego Council of Divers**

**NEWS FROM THE COUNCIL OF DIVERS**

At press time we had no information about the meeting for December. Meetings are held every other month.

The next meeting is shown a Fri, Jan. 9, 2004.

Continue to check the website for further information.

More information will be posted on the Council's website - [www.sddivers.com](http://www.sddivers.com)



## Underwater Santa Photo Shoot and Toy Drive

The annual Underwater Santa Photo Shoot and toy drive is going to be held on the first Saturday of December, December 6th.

This is always a great event, but requires the help of a lot of people. This is a great opportunity to help the club and the community. The toys we collect are given to St. Vincent De Paul's for the children in their center..

This is a great way to spend a part of the day, and we always have plenty of folks come down to get their picture taken with Santa underwater.

But we need help to organize and man the event.

If you can help out in any of the areas listed here, or would like to help coordinate some of the functions, please talk with Peggy Petschek. Her info is in the 'President's Message' on page 1, and in the Officer's Information on pg 2.

QTY	Function
4	Photographers
2	Food gophers
2	Santa tenders
4	Sign up desk assistants
2	Hallway security monitors
2	Tank fillers
4	Divemasters
8	Instructors
2	U/W window monitors
2	Event supervisors
2	Photographer assistants
2	Pool assistants
?	Setup volunteers
?	Tear-down volunteers

## Under Water Photo with Santa



Get your picture taken sitting on Santa's lap next to the fireplace and Christmas tree, **underwater!!**

You'll have a great time and many of San Diego's most needy children will have a great time with the presents that you donate. So come join the fun.

**Who:** Anyone over 8 years old. San Diego Dive Club and Sport Chalet dive department will provide instruction by certified SCUBA instructors for anyone not certified to use SCUBA equipment. There will be certified instructors and dive masters present at all times to ensure the safety of all participants.

**When:** Saturday December 6, 2003  
10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

**Where:** Sport Chalet (Point Loma)  
3695 Midway Drive  
San Diego, CA

**Cost:** We ask that each participant bring an unwrapped toy (eg. sporting goods) that will be donated to St Vincent De Paul Village.

**Equipment:** Bring a swimming suit and a towel. Sport Chalet will provide any necessary diving gear.

The mission of the Marine Vertebrates Collection (MVC) of Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California, San Diego, is to enhance fundamental knowledge and understanding of fishes of the world ocean; to document the organismal and genetic diversity of fishes and changes in that diversity; to support research by scientists in California, the United States and abroad; to provide specimens for use in the education of graduate, undergraduate and K-12 students; to educate the general public on biodiversity and conservation issues related to the world oceans; and to preserve materials for such uses by future generations.

Currently, the MVC maintains approximately 2 million alcohol-preserved specimens of fishes in more than 100,000 lots (a lot is one or more specimens of a single species from one place and time). This inventory represents over 5,300 species of fishes or approximately 20% of the world's known species and over 40 % of the known marine species. The Collection is one of the most complete worldwide collections of deep-sea and pelagic fishes, including specimens from well over 800 oceanographic cruises covering the world's oceans. In addition, the MVC is the most complete collection of coastal fishes from the eastern Pacific Ocean (Alaska to Chile).

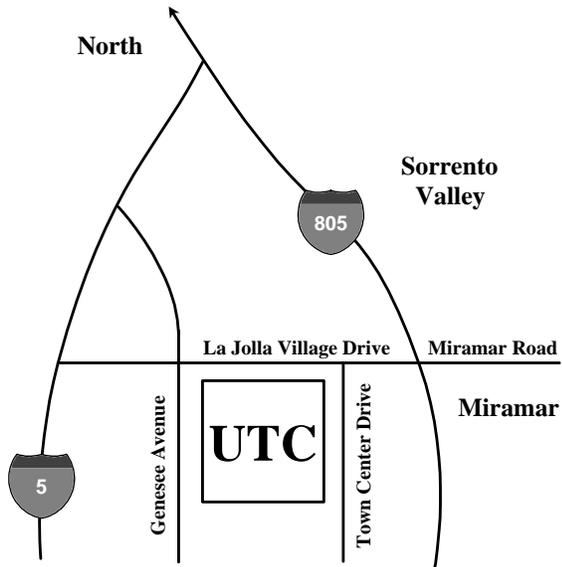
The Marine Vertebrates Collection also plays a major role in educating the next generation of marine biologists. It is the world's most complete marine fish collection directly affiliated with a university marine biology program. In a 1995 survey by the American Society of Ichthyologists & Herpetologists, the MVC was the number one rated collection in North America training PhD students in the study of fishes.

The MVC is only one of five major natural history collections at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography. The Pelagic Invertebrates Collection, Benthic Invertebrate Collection, Cored Sediments and Microfossil Collection, and Dredged Rock Collection are each unique resources, reflecting to some degree the research interests of the Scripps scientists and staff who worked to build them. These collections also represent the tangible results of the expeditionary voyages of the Scripps fleet over the years and comprise the largest, most complete natural history repository devoted to the study of the world's oceans. The Scripps Oceanographic Collections continue to play key roles in supporting numerous research efforts that have made the Scripps Institution of Oceanography the world leader in the study of all aspects of the oceans.

## **Your Help is needed!!**

The situation on the State of California short-fall is that the Scripps Oceanographic Collections will be without funds for an operating budget beginning September 2004. The annual budget is \$400,000. They have approximately \$150,000 raised toward the \$400,000 so the balance needed to be raised by September 2004 is \$250,000.

If you want to help, contact  
John Steinitz Senior Development Officer  
Scripps Institution of Oceanography  
(858) 534-3522  
jsteinitz@ucsd.edu



## DIVE CLUB MEETING LOCATION

**The Canyon Room 7:00 PM**  
 (see page 1 for date of meeting)  
**Lower level of the food court at the University Towne Center shopping mall (U.T.C.)**

**From 805 take La Jolla Village Dr. West**  
**From 5 take La Jolla Village Dr. East**

**January, April, July and October are the club's quarterly meetings and we have a grand raffle prize at those meetings.**

**The winning ticket is drawn from that evenings batch and from the previous two months.**

***ONLY CURRENT CLUB MEMBERS ARE ELLIGIBLE TO WIN THE GRAND PRIZE!!!***

**San Diego Dive Club**  
**P.O. Box 81678**  
**San Diego, CA 92138-1678**

**Check your mailing label to see if you need to renew your membership.**



[www.dive-club.org](http://www.dive-club.org)