

NEWSLETTER



San Jose Flipper Dippers

MAY
2017

GENERAL MEETINGS HELD
3RD WEDNESDAY
OF EACH MONTH
WWW.SJFLIPPERDIPPERS.COM



**MAY 17TH
GENERAL
MEETING
ENTERTAINMENT**

*Spring Fling Raffle
at May
General Meeting*

A special event scheduled for our **May General Meeting** is the **Spring Fling Raffle**. For this annual raffle we dispense with our regular roster rotation for donations and ask **ALL FLIPPER DIPPERS** to bring a *special item*.

Here's how it works: all raffle donations are displayed on a table, each with its own container in which to place tickets. When you purchase tick-

ets, you will be given *both* stubs. Place **ONE** of the stubs in the box of the prize(s) you desire . . . but be sure to **KEEP THE OTHER HALF!** You may put as many tickets into a container as you want. A drawing will then be made for *each* item. The more tickets you buy, the greater your chances to win the particular item(s) you want most.

Diving/camping gear and handmade crafts are always big draws your fellow Dippers would love to win. Or ask your company to donate an item or service (or do it yourself). Be innovative!

Please try to bring your donation to the meeting a bit early so that everything can be displayed before the meeting begins. **THANKS!!** ☆

Are you sure you have the right tank?

“Former Emperor and Dear Leader for Life” (FE&DL4L), aka **Howard Timoney**, sets up a tank for a second dive during the April Copper Roof House dive in Carmel. Conditions were great with good underwater visibility and sunny skies. Fellow Dippers including **Grace Chi, John Snyder, Barbara Davis** and **Carl Tuttle** were joined by **Al Onderick** for the day of diving. John and Carl took out their kayaks while the others dove from the beach. And we can't resist the saying: “YOU should have been there!” ☆

From left: Al, Grace, Howard, Barbara, John and Carl (taking photo) enjoyed a great day of diving.



Did You Miss the Boat?

If you were contemplating a visit to the wreck of the RMS Titanic, you might be too late because trips on Blue Marble's purpose-built titanium and carbon-fiber submersible to the mighty vessel's final resting place two miles down, are fully booked. At \$105,129 per person, it's almost twice as much of that of the last Titanic tourist trip on the Deep Ocean Explorer in 2012. However, not to worry if you missed this opportunity. Los Angeles-based company, The Bluefish, is taking reservations for a similar expedition in 2018-19. Price yet to be determined, but it will include the eight-day round trip from Newfoundland. thebluefish.com/visit-the-titanic. ☆



Refreshments Are Being Served



The following Dippers are asked to bring a tasty goodie to the next General Meeting:
Jim Rezowalli, Jerry Richards, Michelle Schinberg, Scott Schinberg, and John Schwartz. Don't forget you will receive a **FREE** raffle ticket for your donation! ☆

What's Inside?



President's Corner 2
Diver's IQ Review 2
Treasure Hunt 4
Why Whales Jump 5
Albion Weekend 6
Silver Prince Savings 7
Activity Calendar 7

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



We've got new Club business cards! (Thanks to **Carl Tuttle**.) If you didn't make the April General meeting, pick some up at the next meeting. Keep some with your dive gear to share with folk you meet while diving. Keep some in your car, your purse, your wallet. These will be a great way to let people know about the San Jose Flipper Dippers!

April was a fun month for the Dippers. We had a clam dig on Saturday, April 1st, and the 8th Annual Underwater Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 8th. Conditions were challenging for the Egg Hunt dive, with a bigger swell than usual (surfers at Del Monte Beach!) and the fact that coordinator **Jim Rezowalli** decided to use brown eggs and disguise them with sand and greenery!

At the April general meeting, **Jim Van Gogh** gave a great presentation on diving in Cuba! Lots of great photos of marine life as well as Cuba above the water. We learned that the travel industry is still developing in the country and improvements are continuing to meet future travel demands. If you have ideas for guest speakers or other activities we can pursue at our general meetings, let me know!

On April 22nd, **Carl Tuttle** led a dive at Copper Roof House, a site we have not been diving at for some time. Conditions were good and we had two nice dives. We need to keep an eye on the marine forecast and get back to some of these sites in Carmel when conditions allow.

Abalone season opens May 1st this year, and the opening of abalone season often brings reports of injuries or deaths that could have been prevented. Remember to check the conditions. Are you comfortable and fit enough for the dive site and the conditions? Are your buddies competent enough to make the dive safely? Sometimes another dive site would be a better choice. Or maybe cancel the dive and go have a nice breakfast. Also, remember to monitor conditions throughout the dive and day. Surface conditions can change rapidly along the California coast. Do you have a reasonable back-up exit plan? Our Club has a great safety record, and we want to keep it that way!

Lots of activities are happening this month, so check out the calendar!

Everyone keep safe and let's go diving! – **Barbara**

Diver's I.Q. Review Corner

This Month's Question is **TWO** questions again and Each is worth a chance at **FIVE** raffle tickets (We're repeating the I.Q. question due to last month's lack of a raffle):

Question #1) Dive computers that display water temperature consider the diver's thermal stress in decompression computation.

- A) True
- B) False



Question #2) Imagine that you're in a leaky rowboat that is sinking. Great white sharks are circling your boat. How do you get out of this predicament?

Send your answer by e-mail to **Larry Ankuda** at lankuda@comcast.net. All attendees at the next general meeting with the correct answers will be included in a drawing for 10 free raffle tickets. Good Luck!



San Jose Flipper Dippers

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Manuel Mangrobang 408-813-5139

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SERGEANT AT ARMS

Lance Williams 650-321-5255

CLUB COMMITTEES

AWARDS AND FINES

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Jerry Richards 408-267-7853

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TROPHY COMPETITION

John Snyder 408-378-4963

RAFFLE NEWS

Lance Williams

The April Raffle was a BUST! . . . as Lance was under the weather and had all the tickets. Hope you're feeling better Lance!

THIS MONTH'S RAFFLE: This month is our Annual Spring Fling Raffle – where one Diver's trash is another Diver's treasure – so we dispense with our regular roster rotation and ask that all members please bring a special raffle donation (no trash, please). This is one of our annual fundraisers for the Club and there are usually a wide range of great prizes to win.

THE DOOR PRIZE: So the door prize is back to \$10 for our May general meeting so there's still a chance that you could win! But you must be in attendance to be eligible. Don't be like a number of folks who left early and had their name drawn. Or, go ahead and leave early. That way \$10 is added to the pot and someone will be a richer winner! Just ask **Carl Tuttle**, who won \$50 in March!

If you live out of the area or can't attend the General Meeting, please contact **Lance Williams**, 1-650-321-5255, Willo1044@yahoo.com, to send in a check. He will pick up a raffle donation in your name. The raffle has always been an important part of our General Meetings. Please do your part as a Club member and provide a raffle donation when your name comes up. Thank you! ★

MEMBERSHIP

Teresa Hanson



I'd really like to encourage the new and prospective members to join in on the monthly Club dives and events especially our General Meetings where you'll find lots of entertaining dive stories and, in some cases, informative presentations. Coming to these events allows one to share in your experience and be part of the Club's conversation. If you've picked up a copy of this newsletter at a dive shop or our Website, everyone is welcome to come to our general meetings and join us on our great FUN dives! The best part of joining us is diving with people who love to dive!

If you have any questions about a dive or event please do not hesitate to speak up at the General Meeting or contact the dive coordinator listed in the calendar either by e-mail or phone. Our Club Officers and Committee leader's phone numbers are listed on page 2 of this Newsletter. Don't hesitate to call if you have any questions – or suggestions. After all, this is why we have such a great Club!

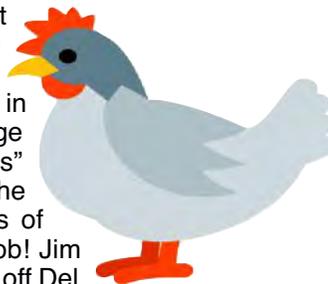
A FREE raffle ticket will be given to the following Dippers who have a birthday this month: **Larry Ankuda, Jerry Richards** and **Barbara Zweig**. Happy birthday to our fellow Flipper Dippers ★



Thanks to **Jim Van Gogh** for last month's presentation on SCUBA diving in Cuba. Jim went to Cuba via a program offered through the Oceans for Youth Foundation (www.oceansforyouth.com). Great diving adventures including the feeding of crocodiles in the water. YIKES! ★

Which came first: The diver, the chicken, or the egg?

At April's 8th Annual Underwater Easter Egg Hunt we only had four Dippers participate; **Barbara Davis, Manuel Mangrobang, Grace Chi** and **Carl Tuttle**. Coordinator, **Jim Rezowalli** went overboard in attempting to make this year's event more of a challenge than in the past. He cleverly disguised the "treasures" by getting brown eggs. To further the difficulty of the divers' hunting, he glued sand, pebbles and sprigs of parsley onto the egg shells. And, boy did he do a job! Jim distributed 48 of the camouflaged eggs into the water off Del Monte Beach. Out of the four divers, only Carl and Manuel found any eggs – finding only three each. When adding up the numbers that were written on the eggs, the totals were the same! So they shared the 1st Place "Awards," which were restaurant gift cards. Both Barbara and Grace didn't find any eggs but they also received prizes. Barbara and Grace did a second dive and Barbara found 10 of them! Carl indicated he thought the eggs he found were left-overs from some other egg hunt, until Jim explained the camouflage process he went through. So now there are 32 eggs awaiting some sea creatures to harvest a tasty meal. ★



2017 TROPHY STANDINGS

Each month the person whose name appears in the newsletter will receive **3 FREE RAFFLE TICKETS** at the General Meeting – if in attendance. If you hold a trophy several months in succession, you will receive **3 FREE** tickets each month until someone beats your catch.

Contact **John Snyder** at +1-408-202-5196, e-mail: john.fishhunter@gmail.com, **WITHIN 1 WEEK** and give him all the proper info (include the name of one Club-member witness). ★

SKIN DIVING

OPEN CATEGORIES

Lingcod, Abalone, Cabezon, Sheephead, Lobster, Halibut, White Sea Bass, Striped Bass

SCUBA

OPEN CATEGORIES

Lingcod, Cabezon, Sheephead, Lobster, Halibut

The race is on! Good luck to all!



Hunting goes on for buried treasure

The SS Monte Carlo was once an exquisite floating den of sin and vice. Hollywood hotshots, wealthy businessmen, and mobsters flushed with cash could make their way out to the boat to drink, dine and gamble until the morning came. Then, one fateful day, the casino boat sank and its remains were plundered and forgotten. Now, nearly 80 years after it fell into the sea, the Monte Carlo is back in the news, and it seems as though its Prohibition Era treasures are still hidden somewhere in the partially uncovered wreck.

The SS Monte Carlo started life as a concrete oil tanker named the SS McKittrick. Commissioned in 1921, the ship was sold and converted in 1932 into what would become the largest gambling boat in the fleet. The 300-foot ship hosted nearly 17,000 people a week in the beginning. Its crime syndicate owners were making nearly \$3 million a year off of the floating casino. Its opening coincided with the Olympics and had made it an instant success. The Monte Carlo's grand opening took place May 7, 1932. It was just before the 1932 Olympic Games, which were being held not far from Long Beach, where the ship was anchored, in Los Angeles. The hope was that the ship would attract tens of thousands of people to the area known as "gambling ship row" where two other gambling ships of the fleet were anchored right near her.

The ship's official owners were two gentlemen named Ed V. Turner and Marvin Schouweiler. But it was an unspoken fact that the Italian Mafia actually owned the Monte Carlo. The mob billed the SS Monte Carlo as "the world's greatest pleasure ship" and drew thousands to it. It was illegal to gamble in the state so the mob came up with the perfect plan to get around that particular hurdle. The mob had Monte Carlo towed from Long Beach to San Diego in 1936, and anchored the ship three miles offshore. The ship operated that way for eight months, with slightly less success than they had seen while they were near Long Beach. It even drew such Hollywood personalities like Clark Gable and Mae West. It was a perfect place for Hollywood parties and galas.

The ship had many different games of chance including: dice tables, blackjack tables, roulette tables and wheels, chuck-a-luck and Chinese lottery. The



casino held regular poker games and featured many rows of slot machines. To lure customers offshore, the casino's operators offered free water taxi rides to take them to and from the ship. Not only that, but guests were also given a free drink and a free dinner just for coming out.

An onboard orchestra played music while guests dined and gambled to add to the elegant ambiance and put people in the mood to spend money.

The ship was usually closed during the winter as the cold night air and rougher seas were not conducive to a pleasurable gambling experience. On November 1, 1936, after hosting a gala party on board, the SS Monte Carlo closed for the winter. They anchored the ship about 3 miles off of Coronado Beach in San Diego, just outside the boundary of federal and state interference, in international waters. On December 30, 1936, a storm began to rage across the west coast. In the middle of the night, the stern and bow chain snapped and the ship was now loose and sailing recklessly with the waves and tides. The ship landed near Tent City on the south side of Coronado Beach where the upper deck of the ship washed onto the beach, spilling out roulette wheels, tables, and hundreds of bottles of top shelf liquor. The rest of the ship sank into the sand where it was buried, though it's sometimes exposed during storm tides.



Some treasure hunters believe that there may be upwards of \$150,000 worth of gold and silver coins still in the wreckage. The wreck

emerged even more recently when El Nino's violent waves removed tons of sand from the wreck. Despite the fact that

so many people have searched the Coronado sands for the treasure, there has been little evidence that anything of value still exists within the shattered hull of the Monte Carlo. Still, treasure seekers will continue to search the shore and sea for the Monte Carlo's sunken coffers. ★



New sonic blast shrimp named after Pink Floyd

A newly-discovered shrimp species with a bright pink claw and the ability to produce one of the loudest sounds in the ocean has been named after legendary British band Pink Floyd, zoologists said on Wednesday. “*Synalpheus pinkfloydi*” has a bright pink claw that, “just like all good rock bands,” can produce large amounts of sonic energy, according to a post on the blog of the University of Oxford’s Museum of Natural History.



Zoologist Sammy de Grave, a lifelong Pink Floyd fan who works at the museum, said the shrimp’s discovery off the coast of Panama was “the perfect opportunity to finally give a nod to my favourite band.” By closing its distinctive claw at rapid speed, the shrimp can produce a sound strong enough to stun or even kill a small fish.

A description of the shrimp appeared in the journal *Zootaxa* on Wednesday and the Oxford team featured the shrimp in fictitious covers for the legendary British rock band’s albums “Animals” and “The Wall.” “I often play Pink Floyd as background music while I’m working,” de Grave said. “But now the band and my work have been happily combined in the scientific literature.”

Scientists Have Discovered the Real Reason Why Whales Jump

It’s hard to miss: A 30-ton mammal flings itself out of choppy waters, hanging in the air for a brief moment before its 45-foot frame crashes back into the water, sending a plume of sea foam into the air as it lands.

You’ve just seen a humpback whale breaching. These whales have been spotted breaching—or exposing large portions of their bodies above the water—year-round, in their winter breeding grounds, their summer feeding grounds, and while traveling between the two. Their breaching behavior while on the move caught the attention of a team of scientists in Australia, who wondered why, when breaching takes so much energy, and humpbacks rarely, if ever, eat while migrating, these giants would use their energy to jump unless it meant something.

Researchers working with the BRAHSS (Behavioural Response of Australian Humpback Whales to Seismic Surveys) project observed 94 different groups of humpback whales migrating past the coast of Australia

en route to the Antarctic. In a scholarly article published in *Marine Mammal Science*, the team pinpointed specific surface behaviors, its term for the whales’ actions as they breach or slap the water with their fins, and what they might mean. It noticed the whales’ surface behaviors became more common on windy days or when there were other groups of whales very far away, supporting the opinion that whales use these behaviors as a form of communication. By leaping into the air or slapping the water with their fins, whales make major noise, noise that helps them communicate across large distances when background sounds from the weather, boats in the area, or other sources might block out their vocal noises.

The team concluded that these surface behaviors serve multiple communication purposes for migrating humpback whales, purposes that can’t be achieved by vocal sounds. It also tried to decipher what the whales are trying to say. According to the article, breaching is possibly communication between far, apart groups of whales. Whales use the incredible underwater noise they can create by crashing their bodies into

the water as a signal to other groups in the area, while fluke (tail fin) or pectoral fin slapping may be important for close-range and between, group communication. The whales may use this communication to mediate social interactions such as groups coming together or splitting apart.

Humpback whales breach and display surface behaviors year-round, so, even though migrating whales were the focus of this study, it’s possible that they use these actions for the same purposes wherever they are. These actions take place regardless of the presence of an opposite-sex pairing and outside breeding grounds, so it’s unlikely that they are limited to mating behaviors. This Australian team only studied humpback whales, but all species of whales breach, and



it’s possible that other baleen whales (like blue whales) use breaching to communicate, too.

The next time you’re fortunate enough to see a whale jumping above the water, know that jump takes a lot of energy, and it’s not just for fun or to put on a show, that jump might carry a message. (This article was originally published on CoastalLiving.com)



Great white shark captured on camera devouring enormous whale carcass

By Lydia Smith, International Business Times

A great white shark was spotted tearing chunks off the floating carcass of a humpback whale off the coast of California. In footage filmed by shark tagger Keith Poe, the 16ft female shark can be seen sinking its teeth into the whale's bloated carcass around 14 miles off Dana Point in Orange County. Poe said the shark ate so much she was "swimming around aimlessly like she was intoxicated." He also reported that his colleagues had tagged the shark as part of their efforts to track shark populations in the area.



The whale has been identified as 'Scarlett the whale' – a 55ft-long humpback whale which has been documented along the Oregon and California coasts since 1997. In 2016,

cameras caught footage of her entangled in rope. She was at least 20 years old when she died and her carcass was spotted around two miles offshore before lifeguards began the process of towing her out to sea. "It was very sad, because it wasn't just another humpback whale, which is already sad enough, but the fact that it was Scarlett," ocean life photographer Mark Girardeau told CBS2. "She's been through so much. I photographed her breaching with ropes going through her mouth and pectoral fins, and she was able to overcome that and gain weight again." ☆



"Scarlett" the whale being towed out to sea. Lifeguards pulled the body out to sea off Oceanside, CA. And over the weekend, the carcass was feasted on by an adult female great white shark. Photo: San Diego Lifeguards. See the video on FaceBook: <https://www.facebook.com/keith.poe2/videos/1826384607387140/>

Albion Ab Dive: Memorial Day Weekend - May 26th - 29th

New Reservation System at Albion

Our next big North Coast dive will be Memorial Day weekend, May 26–29, at Albion River Campground (ARC).

Albion has instituted a NEW Reservation System

Each individual camping space must now be reserved in advance. The Club has 10 spots on hold: Sites #18–#27. So if you're planning on camping at Albion, each Club member must either fill out the online Group Registration Form on ARC's website (www.albionriver-campground.com) or call the campground office (707) 937-0606). The Dipper's Group I.D. Number #: flippers2017.



The new reservation system was put in place by the management at Albion River Campground due to no-shows for verbal reservations and camping spaces not being used.

The cost is \$43 for tents and RVs (includes electric and water) per night. Rates are based on double occupancy and limited to 2 vehicles – one recreational vehicle and one

passenger vehicle – per site, or two passenger vehicles per site without RV. Boat launching is extra.

There will be a sign-up sheet at the General Meeting for Flipper Dipper members in-good-standing (dues paid!) and their guests, and prospective members. **Remember, you MUST make your own reservations to be admitted to the campground, NO EXCEPTIONS!**

This is a great place to freedive for fish and abalone. And don't forget your game bag, fishing license, ab card, hole punch, water-proof scissors, water-proof pen, and zip ties!

Remember, our infamous ab feed and potluck is on Saturday night, which means that each member will provide one cleaned, sliced and pounded ab for every four people in your party plus a potluck dish (hot dish, salad, dessert, etc.) to feed 5+ people. After dinner there will be a bonfire to enjoy.

A special invitation is extended to all new and prospective members to join us for a weekend of diving to remember. **Bill Shipman** (408-252-8692, shipmanb@comcast.net) is coordinating this holiday weekend. ☆

Ed. Note: There are some Dippers that are camping at Van Damme. Some sites might be available and/or space to share. Contact **Carl Tuttle**, (408) 286-7956. tutcomms@sbcglobal.net, for more info.

DIVE & ACTIVITY CALENDAR

MANUEL MANGROBANG

www.SJFLIPPERDIPPERS.COM

MAY 2017

MONDAY, MAY 1 ABALONE SEASON OPENS

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3 BUSINESS MEETING: 7:30 PM

Meeting will be held at **Teresa Hanson's** home (408-966-6433, teresa_hanson@comcast.net). All members are invited to attend. This is a good time to share your new ideas for dives and entertainment. Refreshments to share are welcome. Warm weather brings out the BBQ, too! So be here by 6:30 with your food if you wish to BBQ.

**SAT, MAY 6 - SUN, MAY 7
SCUBA SHOW, LONG BEACH**
Coordinator: **Mike Chalup**, (408) 744-1868, mchalup@virtual.net. Join your fellow Dippers and attend this big event.

**SATURDAY, MAY 13
SECOND SATURDAY SCUBA (S3)
PT. LOBOS DIVE** Coordinator: **Jim Rezowalli**, 1-408-408-202-3132. Jimandthebeach@gmail.com. This is an optional kayak dive. Meet at 8:00 am. Bring 2 tanks and plan on making 2 dives.

Reservations are full at this time but check with Jim to see if there are any last minute openings or go on-line to the Pt. Lobos Website: www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=28353

GENERAL MEETING WEDNESDAY, MAY 17th

7:30 PM at the Knights of Columbus Santa Maria Hall
2211 Shamrock Dr., Campbell.

Happy Birthday!
**Celebrate 53 Years of the
San Jose Flipper Dippers
at our General Meeting.**

Entertainment: Giant Spring
Fling Raffle

- ★ Great Refreshments
- ★ Great Raffle Prizes

THE DOOR PRIZE IS \$10!
YOU must be present to win!

**SATURDAY, MAY 20
NO SCHEDULED DIVE**

**WEEKEND, MAY 26-29
ALBION MEMORIAL DAY AB
WEEKEND** Coordinator: **Bill Shipman**, (408) 252-8692. shipmanb@comcast.net. (Van Damme Group: Some sites are available. **Carl Tuttle**, (408) 286-7956. tutcomms@sbcglobal.net). Come join Fellow Dippers for one of our biggest and best North Coast gatherings of the year. NEW Reservation Policy at Albion. The Club has sites for Friday through Sunday nights. Reserve ONLY online at the Group Reservation page: www.albionrivercampground.com or call the campground office (707- 937-0606). The Dipper's Group I.D. Number #: flippers2017.

UPCOMING IN JUNE

07 Business Meeting
10 Second Saturday SCUBA (S3)
21 General Meeting
June 18 - July 10 Cozumel, Contact
Lance Williams for Info.



Three great ways to save on diving the Silver Prince!

If you enjoy boat diving in Monterey, here's a offering from the folks who run the Silver Prince dive boat:

3. Your 11th trip is on us!
After your 10th trip with us, you'll receive a voucher for a free 2-tank Carmel trip! Back in the day we had captain's cards; get 10 trips signed off by our captains to be redeemed for a free trip. Now we do it automatically when you book online!

Visit: www.silverprincecharters.com



1. After diving with us, then check your email for a \$10 discount on your next trip!

2. Unlimited Diving Pass!
If you're an active diver and want to enjoy unlimited boat dives our annual unlimited diving pass is for you. Enjoy all you can dive 2-tank and 3-tank trips plus 2 vouchers for our Epic Big Sur trip. Perfect for divers wanting to do maximum bottom time.

The Duplex by Glenn McCoy and Gary McCoy



NOTE: All certified divers are encouraged to attend San Jose Flipper Dippers' dives.

Non-Club members will be required to show proof of certification to the dive coordinator prior to entering the water with our group. Please sign up for dives at the General Meeting or call the coordinator. This is needed in case of cancellation or changes.



San Jose Flipper Dippers

P.O. Box 7421
San Jose, CA 95150



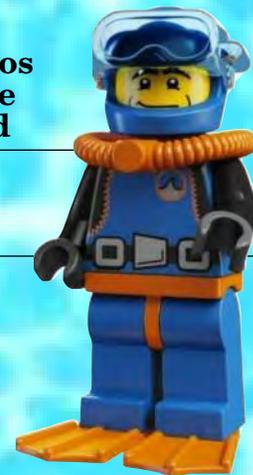
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FIRST CLASS MAIL

2017 COMING EVENTS

May 1	Abalone Season Opens
May 3	Business Meeting
May 6-7	SCUBA Show: Long Beach, CA
May 13	Second Saturday SCUBA: Pt. Lobos
May 17	☛ General Meeting - Spring Raffle
May 26-29	Memorial Day Albion Ab Weekend
June 7	Business Meeting
June 10	Second Saturday SCUBA
June 21	☛ General Meeting - Food Drive
July 1	Abalone Season Closed
July 1	No License Fishing Day
July 5	Business Meeting
July 8	Second Saturday SCUBA
July 9	Panther Beach Clean-Up
July 16 - 28	Philippines Dive Trip
July 19	☛ General Meeting
July 22	Halibut dive



Watch This Space - Much More To Come!
See the Club's Website for the full Calendar



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