

NEWSLETTER



San Jose Flipper Dippers

MAY
2019

GENERAL MEETINGS HELD
3RD WEDNESDAY
OF EACH MONTH
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**MAY 15TH
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 tickets, 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 related items, camping gear and handmade crafts are always big draws your fellow Dippers would love to win. 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!! ☆



Which came First? The Chicken, the Egg, or the Diver?

The 10th Annual Underwater Easter Egg Hunt was a great success . . . Well, for some divers. A big thanks to **Jim Rezowalli**, in photo above left, for stepping up to distribute the eggs as **John Snyder** was called up by FEMA and was out of town on assignment. Eleven participants included, in photo, **Barbara Davis, Carl Tuttle, Donavon Hill, Howard Timoney,**

Grace Chi and Manuel Mangrobang. Missing from the photo were **Tom and Jackie Gardner, Teresa Hanson and Mike Chalup** (taking the photo). Extra eggs with drawings of a bunny were added to the mix of the 48 eggs placed in the water. Each found "Bunny Egg" was worth a chocolate Easter bunny prize which was a great addition to the event. The UW vis was about 20-25 feet and the sun came out to help in the search. Everyone also did a second dive under the pier. After the dives, most of the group had lunch at the London Pub. ☆



Refreshments Are Being Served

The following Dippers are asked to bring a tasty goodie to the next General Meeting: **Dhaval Giani, Teresa Hanson, Manuel Mangrobang, Adam Nasont, Dennis Nasont and Hunter Reid.** Don't forget you will receive a **FREE** raffle ticket for your donation! ☆

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Our May calendar starts off with the an S3 dive on May 11th at Pt. Lobos in Monterey County. This dive has become an annual event and has an easy entry: just walk to the edge of the Pt. Lobos boat ramp and fall in.

On April 13th, we had our 10th Annual Underwater Easter Egg Hunt with several Flipper Dippers in attendance. Thanks to **Jim Rezowalli** for stepping up and distributing the eggs – no brown ones this year! The conditions were quite nice and several participants got Chocolate Bunnies as a special prize. I did not. But my wife did, so I bit off her bunny ears.

The annual club dive and campout for Memorial Day weekend is also upon us. Since there is no longer an abalone season not as many people are going to attend. However there are a few dive-hards that continue to show up at Van Damme and enjoy the park and surrounding area and activities.

The annual Spring Fling Raffle is occurring this month at the General Meeting. Everybody please bring a gift, and buy raffle tickets to support the Club.

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



San Jose Flipper Dippers

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TROPHY COMPETITION

John Snyder 408-378-4963

Diver's I.Q. Review Corner

This month we have Two (2) Questions and each is worth a chance to win FIVE (5) raffle tickets for your correct answer!

Summer is coming and that often means dive travel so let's test your knowledge of ways to protect yourself from tropical diseases!

Question No. 1: Is the statement below True or False?

Prophylactic medication for malaria (based on the region and tailored to the endemic species of Plasmodium, the malaria-causing parasite) is the most effective protection against the disease, and the first and main line of defense.

Question No. 2: Is the statement below True or False?

Insect repellents with greater than 50% DEET are more effective than those containing lower concentrations.

Send your answer by email to **Barbara Davis** at bjdscuba123@gmail.com. All attendees at the next general meeting with the correct answers will be included in a drawing for 5 free raffle tickets per question. Good Luck!



The S3 Dive on May 11 is at Pt. Lobos.
See the Calendar on page 7 for Information.



RAFFLE NEWS

Leigh Hartley Tuttle

Lots of great donations for the raffle table at the April general meeting. **Howard Timoney** put a nice bottle of champagne on the table which **Manuel Mangrobang** snapped up. **Bill Shipman** brought a lovely Chardonnay which **Bill Winter** took a liking to. **Greg** and **Barbara Davis** donated three travel mugs which were grabbed by **Jackie Gardner**, Howard and **Mike Chalup**, respectively. **Scott Schimberg** was popular with his donation of a *Any Water Sports* gift certificate, won by **Tom Gardner**. Barbara picked up a BevMo gift certificate donated by Bill Winter. **Carl Tuttle** brought a lobster desert mold which **Mike Chalup** (who had to be convinced to take it) took because it was the last item on the table! **Jerry Richards** donated an "Official" Flipper Dippers apron, grabbed by Howard who also scored a tank cover donated by Carl. I am looking forward to the BIG Spring Fling Raffle and hope you are too!

THE DOOR PRIZE: The door prize is now \$30 as **Jan Robinson** was not at the April general meeting. Remember, YOU must be in attendance to be eligible to win.

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 raf-

fle donation. This is one of our annual fundraisers for the Club and there are usually a wide range of great prizes to win. We ask that you **bring a dive-related gift for the Raffle Table**. The raffle has always been a fun part of our General Meetings with lots of items available to win. Ticket sales go to support the printing of the newsletter and the hosting of the Club's Website. If you live out of the area or can't attend the General Meeting, please contact, **Leigh Hartley Tuttle** (1-408-829-3660, tutcomms@sbcglobal.net) to send in a check. She will pick up a great 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

There are some prospective members looking to dive and we look forward to diving with you! Prospectives must have a Club jacket either in possession or on order to be voted into the Club. See the Club's Website (Membership Requirements) for information and where to purchase. Contact **Teresa** for additional information on any and all Membership Requirements.

A FREE raffle ticket will be given to the following Dippers who have a birthday this month: **Larry Ankuda**, **Jerry Richards** and **Barbara Zwieg**. Happy birthday to all! ☆

NOTE: Fraudulent Fishing License Websites are out there

Anglers should be aware of fraudulent websites claiming to sell state fishing licenses. The only place to get a valid California fishing license is through the CDFW online license sales and service, through one of our many license agents, including dive shops, or a Fish & Wildlife department license sales office. For online purchases visit <https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/> ☆



2019 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, email: 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, Cabezon, Sheephead, Lobster, Halibut, White Sea Bass, Striped Bass

SCUBA

□ OPEN CATEGORIES □
Cabazon, Lingcod, Halibut, Sheephead, Lobster

Good luck to all!



Boat Dive in San Diego: June 15 & 16

Teresa Hanson

Hey Dippers! Are you looking for a close destination where you can go diving with great visibility and warmer water temperatures? Then we have the dive trip for you – in beautiful San Diego!

We will be going with Waterhorse Charters on their 46-ft. dive boat *Humboldt*, located right in Mission Bay with quick access to the famous Wreck Alley and unique kelp forests.

June 15th (Saturday) is a 3-tank dive to the Coronado Islands:

\$130/pp +\$30 visa (passport is required)

June 16th (Sunday) is a 2-tank dive in Wreck Alley

(Yukon and the Ruby Ye): \$75/pp

We currently have the whole boat reserved but we need a minimum of 12 people - non-divers are welcome! We plan to promote this charter to other Clubs so we can fill up the boat. So if you're interested in going, let me know ASAP! **Teresa Hanson**, phone: 408-966-6433, email: teresa_hanson@comcast.net. **This is going to be a great trip!** ☆

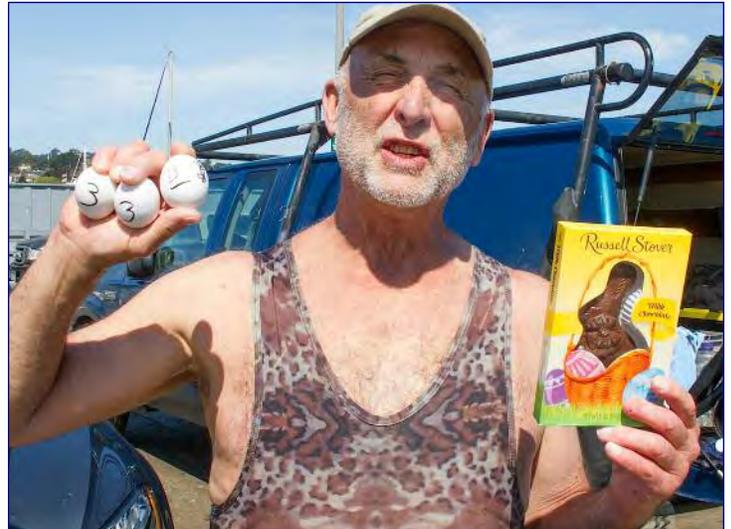
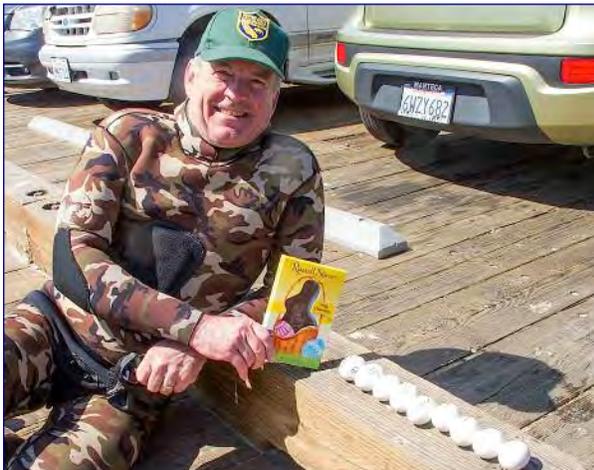
10th Annual Underwater Easter Egg Hunt

Eggs were not lost and found, but tossed and found.

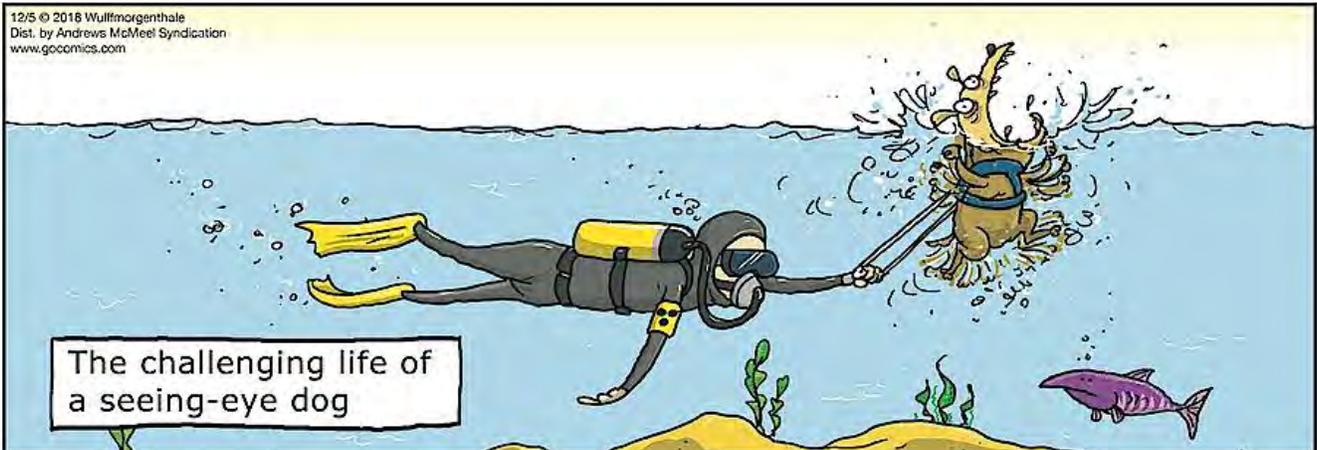
It turned out to be a great day of hunting for these Dippers. Below, **Jackie Gardner**, got a chocolate bunny as a consolation prize, **Barbara Davis**: 1st place, a gift certificate for a trip on the *BeachHopper* dive boat, **Donovan Hill**: 2nd place, a gift certificate to *Any Water Sports*, and **Carl Tuttle**: 3rd place, a Amazon gift card.



Above, Barbara shows off her winning eggs. Below, **Howard** (Former Emperor and Dear Leader For Life) **Timoney** scored two numbered eggs and a “Bunny” egg, which got him a chocolate bunny. Underwater, during the dive, Howard tried buying a couple of eggs from **Mike Chalup** for some sand dollars but Mike was on to his antics. Lower left, Carl displays his eggs which didn’t add up to first place, but he did score a “Bunny” egg hidden on the beach to win a chocolate bunny. 🐰



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The challenging life of
a seeing-eye dog

This Just In!

Some Dippers are actually into scuba diving! Well, imagine that! So, **Carl Tuttle**, **Tom Gardner**, **Jackie Gardner** and **Barbara Davis** went on the Monastery Beach dive on Saturday, April 27. Although the sun didn't come out, Mother Nature provided a flat ocean and about +25-foot viz under water. After a leisurely break enjoying some great food and conversation the group decided to pass on the second dive. 🌟

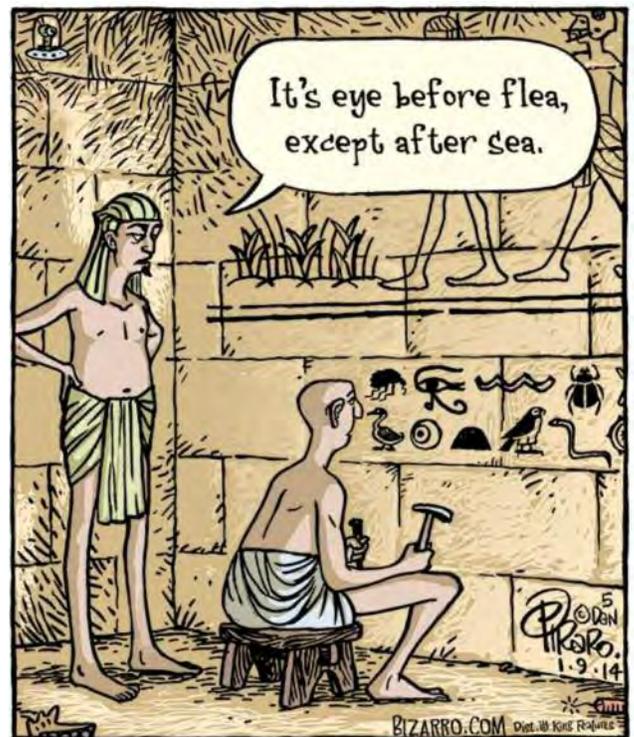


There's always time for a "selfie" before the dive. Above left, Carl, Tom and Barbara are about ready to get ready . . . and Jackie, right, is getting ready too.



Above, from left, Jackie, Tom, Carl and Barbara take a break after the first dive at Monastery Beach. OK, so after some time relaxing, chatting and eating the second dive was called.

Looks like the Easter Bunny followed the Dippers looking for the eggs that were tossed in the ocean during the underwater Easter egg dive.



Great white shark: Its genetic mysteries and how they can help cancer research

Peter Fimrite, *San Francisco Chronicle*

The great white shark is not only a fearsome predator, it also has an unusual resistance to cancer and a remarkable ability to heal quickly from wounds, a team of scientists found after sequencing the genome of the toothy sea creature.

The discovery gives biologists their first insights into the exceptional longevity of the shark — more than 70 years — and also could potentially be used by medical researchers to prevent cancer, treat age-related ailments and heal injuries in humans, the researchers said.

“We think that these key evolutionary traits may help facilitate white sharks’ long life span, large bodies, and may even contribute to sharks’ long-standing success as one of the most ancient vertebrate lineages on Earth,” said Salvador Jorgensen, a senior research scientist at the Monterey Bay Aquarium and a co-author of the study. “Sharks have thrived for some 500 million years, longer than almost any vertebrate on earth.”

The findings, published in the journal *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, represent a breakthrough for scientists studying evolutionary adaptations in the marine environment. The unique blood-clotting and cancer-protection genes in white sharks were also found in whale sharks, dispelling a long-held notion among biologists that animals larger than humans were more susceptible to cancer.

The research team, including scientists from California State University Monterey Bay and several other shark research and veterinary centers in the United States and around the world, used blood, skin and muscle tissue from white sharks off the California coast to identify active genes from the finned creatures’ DNA. The idea, Jorgensen said, was to identify genes that had evolved, essentially cellular natural selection. What they found were a lot of genes associated with stem cell maintenance and DNA repair, a type they associate with “genome stability” because they are specifically linked to fighting off disease and repairing damage.

The opposite phenomenon, “genome instability,” is known to predispose humans to numerous cancers and age-related diseases, according to the study. “We find that nature has developed clever strategies to maintain

the stability of genomes in these large-bodied, long-lived sharks,” said Mahmood Shivji, the director of the Save Our Seas Foundation Shark Research Center at Nova Southeastern University in Florida, and a lead author of the study, which also compared great white genetics to other animals, including whale sharks and humans.

Besides having more healing properties, scientists were surprised to discover that the great white’s genome is 1½ times the size of the human genetic code, possibly because of all the molecular adaptations. It is not known whether white sharks actually get cancer, but they are known to heal from wounds, even severe ones, very quickly. The restorative pathways found in sharks have the potential to revolutionize medical science, said Shivji, who co-led the study with Michael Stanhope of the Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine.



Since 1851, 187 great white shark attacks have been recorded on humans in California, with 16 fatalities. Most of the attacks have occurred in the fall, especially in October, which some researchers call “Sharktober.” That includes the most recent deaths — of body boarder Lucas Ransom, 19, on Oct. 22, 2010, and surfer Javier Solorio Jr., 39, on Oct. 23, 2012 — both at Surf Beach in Santa Barbara County. Close to half of California’s shark attacks have occurred in the Red Triangle, but none have been recorded since 2013, when two people were injured by sharks along the San Mateo County coast. The only reported fatal human-shark encounter off San Francisco shores occurred in May 1959, when 18-year-old Albert Kogler Jr. died after he was attacked in roughly 15 feet of water while swimming off Baker Beach.

“There’s still tons to be learned from these evolutionary marvels,” Shivji said, “including information that will potentially be useful to fight cancer and age-related diseases, and improve wound healing treatments in humans, as we uncover how these animals do it.” Great white sharks, known scientifically as *Carcharodon carcharias*, can live 73 years or longer, reach lengths of 20 feet and weigh

as much as 7,000 pounds, making them one of the world’s largest predatory fishes.

The sharks, which have long struck fear in Bay Area surfers, abalone divers and swimmers, live worldwide in cool, coastal waters and have been known to dive as deep as 4,000 feet. They have a well-developed sense of smell and eyesight, and an innate ability to sense changes in water pressure, which helps them find prey.

The genetic characteristics of sharks are important, Jorgensen said, because the population of great whites, particularly along the West Coast, remains relatively low compared to their historic numbers. Fewer than 350 adults were counted off the coast a few years ago, but reported sightings and encounters have recently increased, especially along the Central Coast and in Southern California.

It is not the first genetic study of sharks that revealed striking results. A landmark report by Stanford University in 2009 determined that West Coast sharks, known as north-eastern Pacific white sharks, are genetically unique compared with other great whites around the world. The local sharks, which prey mostly on elephant seals, sea lions and sea otters, descended from a relatively small number of sharks in the South Pacific between Australia and New Zealand in the late Pleistocene era, an estimated 200,000 years ago, and have not mixed with other populations since then, the Stanford study found.

The snaggle toothed carnivores are known to spend winters in a deep ocean spot near Hawaii that scientists have dubbed the White Shark Cafe. Starting around August, they return to the Farallon Islands, where they feed through October. Some of them have been documented entering San Francisco Bay.

The area they roam — from Monterey Bay to the Farallon Islands and across to Bodega Head — has been known for years as the Red Triangle, a scary-sounding name that many marine biologists shun because it bolsters what they consider a false impression — that great whites are blood-thirsty killing machines.

Attacks on humans are rare, experts say, and are usually the result of a shark mistaking a surfer or abalone diver for a sea lion. The only reported fatality in the Bay Area occurred in 1959, when a swimmer was attacked off Baker Beach in San Francisco.

The researchers said their findings are just the tip of the iceberg of what they expect to learn about white sharks as they continue their studies. ★

DIVE & ACTIVITY CALENDAR

MANUEL MANGROBANG

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MAY 2019

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 1
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.**

**SATURDAY, MAY 4
NO SCHEDULED DIVE**

**SATURDAY, MAY 11
SECOND SATURDAY SCUBA (S3): PT. LOBOS DIVE**
Coordinator: **Scott Schimberg**, 510-682-7600. scott@schimberg.net. This is an optional kayak dive. Meet at 8:00 am (or earlier) at the

gate. Bring 2 tanks and plan on making 2 dives. Reservations are full at this time but check with Scott to see if there is any last minute dive team space available.

GENERAL MEETING WEDNESDAY, MAY 15th

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

Celebrate 55 Years of the San Jose Flipper Dippers at our General Meeting.

Entertainment:

- ★ Happy Birthday Dippers!
- ★ Social Hour
- ★ BIG Spring Fling Raffle

THE DOOR PRIZE IS \$30!

YOU must be present to win!

**SATURDAY, MAY 18
NO SCHEDULED DIVE**

THUR. MAY 23 – SUN. MAY 26 MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND AT VAN DAMME

Coordinator: **Carl Tuttle**, (408-829-3660, tutcomms@sbcglobal.net). A couple of Dippers have sites. Contact Carl to see about sharing space. No ab diving but scuba diving, spearfishing and bike riding too.

UPCOMING IN JUNE

- 05 Business Meeting
- 08 Second Saturday SCUBA (S3): Boat Dive
- 15-16 Boat Dive – San Diego
- 19 General Meeting – Food Drive



For 30 years, Garfield phones kept washing up on a French beach. Now, we know why.

Year after year, he came. Orange, plastic and hungry for lasagna, his self-satisfied face was stuck in a permanent grin. Sometimes he came intact. Other times, he was in pieces or badly coated in grime. "It never stops," one local said.

For 30 years, Garfield the cat novelty phones kept washing up on the beaches of France. A 15-mile stretch of beach near Brest saw nearly 200 phones and phone pieces wash ashore in 2018 alone. Why, locals wondered, did Phone Garfield live in seemingly endless numbers off the coast of Brittany?

French environmentalists sought an answer, hoping to finally stop the relentless, if whimsical, pollution. An anti-littering group called Ar Vilantsou started a media blitz about the phones, which caught the attention of a local farmer. That man remembered a stormy day in the 1980s;



from that day on, phones appeared on the beaches with some regularity.

The farmer contacted Ar Vilantsou and told them about the incident. He also recalled, tucked away in some sea caves, a container that blew off the ship that day.

So curious anti-littering crusaders followed the farmer into the sea cave. And there, they found the remnants of a broken shipping container. All around were more pieces of Phone Garfield. At last, they'd found the breeding ground of their orange mystery.

"This is the first time in our lives that we've seen that," Ar Vilantsou's Claire Simonin-Le Meur told reporters.

Alas, while the mystery is solved, the problem is not. Garfield will continue to wash up on the shore, because the container is wedged in an inaccessible spot. For now, all locals can do is continue to police the beaches for those errant telephonic cats, forever seeking a Pooky to keep them company. ★

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

c/o 1108 Sunset Landing
Rio Vista, CA 94571-5148



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FIRST CLASS MAIL

2019 COMING EVENTS

May 1	Business Meeting
May 11	Second Saturday SCUBA - Pt. Lobos
May 15	☛ General Meeting
May 24-27	Memorial Day Weekend
June 5	Business Meeting
June 8	Second Saturday SCUBA: Boat Dive
June 15-16	San Diego - Wreck Alley Dive
June 19	☛ General Meeting - Food Drive
July 6	No License Fishing Day
July 7	Panther Beach Clean Up
July 10	Business Meeting
July 13	Second Saturday SCUBA
July 17	☛ General Meeting
July 27	Halibut Dive
Aug 1	Business Meeting
Aug 10-12	Monterey Bay Shootout
Aug 11	Second Saturday SCUBA
Aug 15	☛ General Meeting



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



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