

NEWSLETTER



San Jose Flipper Dippers

MAY 2020

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

We're still waiting for the pool to open

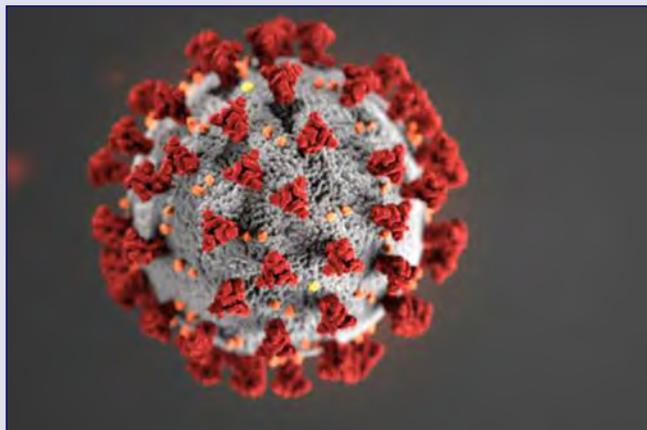
With the "stay-at-home," 10-person social gathering and 6-foot social distance order still in place around the state, to deal with the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, these requirements are in flux as to how and when we can pick back up with our diving activities.

Some beaches are open but there is no parking available and some cities and/or counties are not allowing access if you need to drive to the ocean access areas.

We're all chomping at our regulators and snorkels to get back in the water – and some are even complaining that their wetsuits are shrinking while not in use!

We'll continue to have virtual Business and General Meetings until the gathering restrictions are lifted. Please join in as there is a lot of information that can still be reported on and shared among our great Club members.

So, stay tuned, stay healthy and stay safe. We'll all get back in the pool soon!



Not all shoppers are divers, and not all divers are shoppers. Or are they?

Some will go the distance in creative ways to go shopping during the COVID-19 situation. And then there are those who figure that they might as well make light of all we find ourselves in these days. ★



What's Inside?



President's Corner 2
Entertainment. 2
DAN: COVID-19. 3
Diver's IQ Review 4
Dugongs Sighted 4
Easter Egg Dive. 6
Activity Calendar 7

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



The April General Meeting was held in a virtual format again this month due to the Coronavirus Shelter-In-Place rules. Fortunately we have **Abigail Golden Wilson**, our intrepid Vice-President, who again made the Webex meeting happen. We had a good group sign on.

Our guest speaker was **Keith Rootsart** who gave a talk on the current Purple Urchin situation. I have to admit that I learned quite a bit about this pesky little critter.

Number one is that it's not just the West Coast of North America that the sea urchin has overwhelmed with vastly increased numbers. It seems this same phenomenon is occurring in Australia, Europe, South America and anywhere else that Kelp is growing.

Number two is that with the warmer water killing off much of the kelp combined with the massive urchin invasion it will probably be 30-40 years before the abalone sport fishery will make a comeback – if ever. If you couldn't attend the virtual presentation and are interested in seeing the presentation Abby recorded it and we plan to provide a link on our website and Facebook pages soon for all to view.

Keith works for several volunteer groups, including Reef Check California, that are studying the Urchin problem and would like any divers who are interested in helping to contact them. I would like to thank Keith for the fine job he did and **John Snyder** for arranging Keith's presentation

In other club news, everything is either canceled or put on hold until further notice. Hopefully the Covid-19 restrictions will ease up soon.

Everyone keep safe!

– Your president **Tom**



San Jose Flipper Dippers

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CLUB OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Tom Gardner 408-274-9447

VICE PRESIDENT

Abby Golden Wilson 703-405-8554

SECRETARY(s)

Larry Ankuda 408-378-4963

Teresa Hanson 408-966-6433

TREASURER

Jackie Gardner 408-274-9447

SERGEANT AT ARMS

Dennis Nasont 669-400-1643

CLUB COMMITTEES

AWARDS AND FINES

o Position Open o

CLUB PROPERTY

Jerry Richards 408-267-7853

MEMBERSHIP

Teresa Hanson 408-966-6433

NEWSLETTER & WEBSITE

Carl Tuttle 408-829-3660

email tutcomms@sbcglobal.net

PHOTOGRAPHY

Mike Chalup 408-744-1868

RAFFLE

Leigh Hartley Tuttle 408-829-3660

email tutcomms@sbcglobal.net

REFRESHMENTS

Steve Richards 408-267-7853

STAR ACHIEVEMENT

Jackie Gardner 408-274-9447

TROPHY COMPETITION

John Snyder 408-378-4963

Diver' I.Q. Review Corner

See Page 4



**MAY 20TH
VIRTUAL
GENERAL MEETING
ENTERTAINMENT**



Join us online at our virtual May General Meeting for a great time to share your dive stories or discuss how you're keeping busy – while unable to go diving. ★

DAN's Quick Guide to Properly Disinfecting Dive Gear

March 5, 2020

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, questions have arisen in the dive community about disease transmission when using rental equipment, especially regulators. With the threat of COVID-19 on everyone's minds, divers want to know what precautions are being taken against the spread of disease. Properly sanitizing equipment is paramount. Keep the following in mind:

In general, equipment can be effectively sanitized by submerging it in a 1% bleach solution or using a cleaning product such as Steramine™ tablets or any other quaternary ammonium compound. Be sure to use these products according to the manufacturer's directions and then rinse the gear with fresh water.

To disinfect equipment to kill the virus that causes COVID-19, a disinfectant on the EPA's List N should be used. Before using a product, check to see if it has been registered with the EPA for use on dive equipment, respirators or the materials these are made of. Alternatively, the CDC recommends a 4:100 bleach solution (1/3 cup of bleach in 1 gallon of water) with a contact time of 1 minute. (A previous edition of this article stated a 10% or 10:100 bleach solution based on information available at that time.)

When using any disinfectant, be sure to follow the manufacturer's instructions for use. Follow this with a thorough rinse in fresh water, and allow the equipment to dry completely before use.

Products that are commonly used to clean dive gear but are ineffective against the virus that causes COVID-19 include antibacterial and chlorhexidine mouthwashes or sprays. Hot soapy water must be paired with mechanical action such as scrubbing

with a soft toothbrush to be effective.

If you're a diver using rental gear and would like to take extra steps to protect yourself from transmissible diseases, thoroughly wipe the following equipment with a household disinfecting wipe and then rinse with fresh water before use:

- Regulator mouthpiece
- Snorkel
- BCD oral inflator
- The inside of your mask

If you do not have access to wipes, you may wish to ask the shop you're diving with to properly sanitize the equipment before you take it with you.

As always, frequent hand-washing (with soap for at least 20 seconds), regularly cleaning high-traffic objects and

areas (bathrooms, door handles, countertops, etc.), avoiding contact with people who are sick, and staying home when you are sick are some of the best ways to stop the spread of disease. For more information, see the CDC's coronavirus page.



You can also check out the EPA's diving safety manual for its guidelines on decontaminating scuba equipment. For a more detailed gear disinfection article with answers to frequently asked questions visit: <https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-04/documents/epa-diving-safety-manual-2016.pdf>

If you have any questions, please contact RiskMitigation@DAN.org.

Update - April 24, 2020

The CDC has updated its recommendations, and some of the cleaning products noted in this article may not be suitable for killing the virus that causes COVID-19. While Steramine is an effective sanitizing product, and some manufacturers recommended it for use on dive gear, it does not appear on the EPA's "List N" and is thus not endorsed for removal of the new coronavirus. For a more up-to-date article that's specific to COVID-19, go to [Disinfection of Scuba Equipment and COVID-19](#). ★

RAFFLE NEWS

Leigh Hartley Tuttle

The April General Meeting was a virtual meeting and there was no raffle because no one bought any virtual tickets! Well, we'll just have to save all the goodies until we get back together for a non-virtual General Meeting - hopefully very soon!

Stay safe and I look forward to seeing everyone when this Coronavirus is over! Enjoy your staycations! ★

MEMBERSHIP

Teresa Hanson

There are prospective members looking to dive and once we get back into the water we look forward to diving with you! See the Club's Website (Membership Requirements) for more information. Contact **Teresa** for additional information on any and all Membership Requirements.

If we had a regular General Meeting, a FREE raffle ticket would have been given to the following Dippers who had a birthday in April: **Greg Davis, Jim Rezowalli** and **Brian Zaugg**. And this goes for our May birthday Dippers too, including: **Larry Ankuda, Jerry Richards** and **Barbara Zwieg**. ★

2020 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, Cabezon, Sheephead, Lobster, Halibut, White Sea Bass, Striped Bass

SCUBA

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



Diver's I.Q. Review Corner

Barbara Davis

Because we're stuck "Sheltering-in-Place" here's a little test of your "Group Identification" skills.

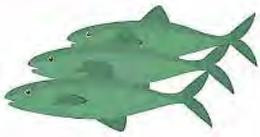
All correct answers is worth a chance to win FIVE (5) virtual raffle tickets!

(To see how well you did check page 7 for the correct answers.)

Good Luck!



Collective Nouns For Sea Animals



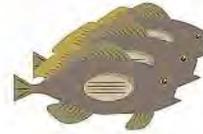
A ___ of
salmon



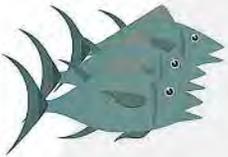
A ___ of
angelfish



A ___ of
sardines



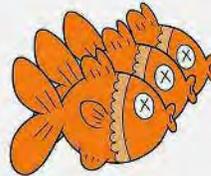
A ___ of
bass



A ___ of
tuna



A ___ of
swordfish



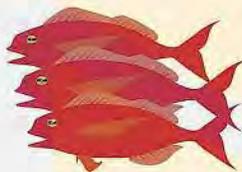
A ___ of
goldfish



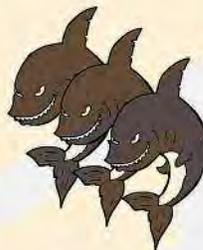
A ___ of
seahorses



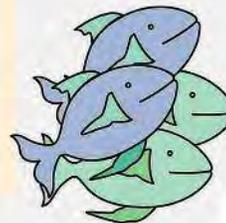
A ___ of
rainbow fish



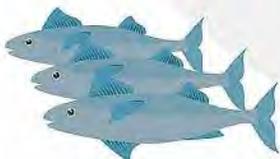
A ___ of
cod



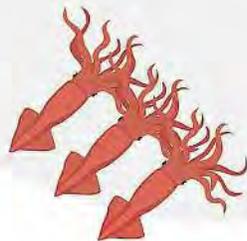
A ___ of
sharks



A ___ of
fish



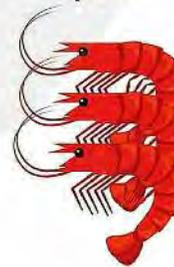
A ___ of
mackerel



A ___ of
squid



A ___ of
dragonet fish



A ___ of
shrimp

Dugongs spotted as Covid-19 empties Thai tourist areas



Conservationists in Thailand have reported more sightings of a threatened sea mammal as the coronavirus pandemic has left tourist areas deserted. Drone video footage released by the Department of National Parks shows a 30-strong herd of dugongs in shallow waters off Libong island in Trang province.

Human intrusion and marine pollution have made dugong sightings in southern Thailand rare in recent years. "It's quite unusual," marine scientist Thon Thamrongnawasawat told The Associated Press when asked about the dugongs. "This species of mammal is very sensitive to speed boats and people. When they are gone, they feel free to gather in a large group and come close to shore."

Dugongs – closely related to the manatee or sea cow – are officially classified as vulnerable. They can grow up to 11ft in length. Thailand's population is put at around 250. Last year a record number of dead dugongs were found in Thai waters. Park rangers also counted 10-15 false killer whales, another protected species, near the popular tourist island of Koh Lanta, the first time they have been seen in that area. ★

2020 SCUBA SHOW

THE DIVING EVENT OF THE YEAR! MAY 30 & 31, 2020

SCUBA Show Canceled

Dear Scuba Show Attendees,

It is with heavy hearts that we announce Scuba Show 2020 is officially canceled. The next show will take place on May 22-23, 2021.

We considered moving the 2020 show to later in the year, but ultimately decided that postponing the show still held too much uncertainty. The well-being of everyone under our roof is our primary concern, and there's no way to responsibly hold an event of this size and with people from around the world for the foreseeable future.

If you have already purchased tickets for the 2020 Scuba Show, you have two options. Please email us to let us know your preference: You may have a full refund of your purchase. You may transfer your tickets to the 2021 Scuba Show. If you choose to do this, we will double your ticket order for free. This will allow you to bring in a friend, preferably someone you would want to introduce to diving. That will help our scuba community grow, and help companies weather the aftermath of this pandemic - they will appreciate it.

Finally, while we can't be together in person, we still want to stand together as a scuba community. We're working on ways to bring some of the Scuba Show to you virtually at the end of the month - you'll hear from us soon with details.

The next Scuba Show will be held as scheduled, on May 22-23, 2021. Until then, we'll be planning and eagerly waiting to welcome the scuba community back to Long Beach.

Stay well and continue to do what divers do best - support each other.

Sincerely,
Mark Young and the Scuba Show team

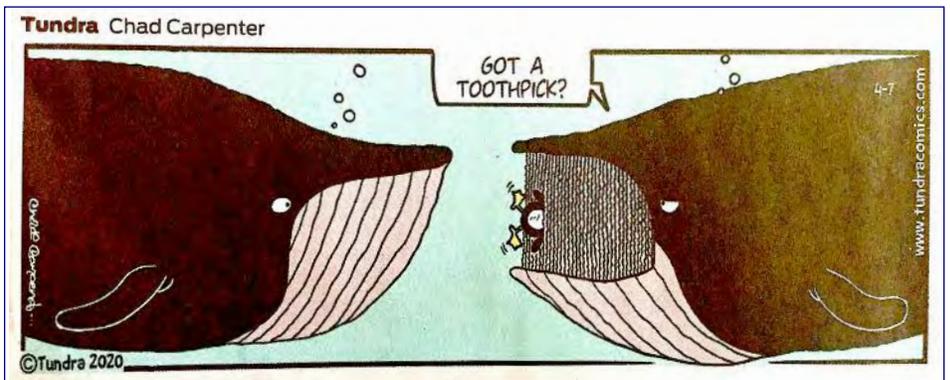
Could Covid-19 Harm a Divers Lungs?

Divers who suffered from Covid-19 disease may never be able to dive again, says senior physician Frank Hartig at the Innsbruck University Clinic in Austria. (RAINews.IT) The clinic has treated dozens of corona virus sufferers including six active divers, none of whom had to be treated in hospital, but cured themselves in home quarantine and are considered recovered. But, "the damage to the lungs is irreversible," said Hartig. "After a Covid-19 infection, even if you have only mild symptoms, you should definitely have a dive doctor examine you thoroughly, even if you still have an upright medical examination."

Following a German article that suggested recovered COVID-19 divers will be permanently unfit for the sport, a lot of speculation started circling around the internet.

The Position of the Belgian Society for Diving and Hyperbaric Medicine on Diving after COVID-19 has solid guidelines with coherent recommendations.

The Bottom Line: like most matters related to this virus, there's not enough statistical data to accept or refute the doctor's conclusions. Once again, it all boils down to you being proactive about your health and recognizing your own body's limits. ★



Virtual Easter Egg Hunt - Sans SCUBA and Saltwater

Jim Rezowalli

The First Annual San Jose Flipper Dippers' Virtual Easter Egg Hunt was a EGGcellent success. I am happy to say most Dippers can still spot an egg in the grass. The instructions were simple:

OK Dippers,

No virus is going to stop our Annual Easter Egg Hunt!

Here's your chance to have some fun while you're locked inside your homes!

Since we cannot be together this Easter we are holding the San Jose Flipper Dippers' first ever virtual Easter Egg Hunt.

Hidden in my front yard are a Baker's dozen Easter eggs (that is 13 eggs for you non-bakers).

Actually they are really lemons and tangerines and no chickens were harmed in the making of this Easter Egg hunt! (That and there were no eggs in the store when I cooked this up.)

To participate circle as many "eggs" as you can find. Take a picture of your results and email them back to me - along with a quick note on how you are going. First one to send a picture back with the correct finds will win an award of some kind!

I hope to hear from you all.

*Happy Easter
Uncle Jim*

Most Dippers sent responses like the winning one from **Abigale Wilson (#1)**. There will be a very appropriate Flipper Dippers prize for her the next time we can all be in the same place. Until then she will have to wait with baited breath.

Though most eggs were circled in red as above a few chose different colors (but did not read the instructions and sent their entry to the wrong email address and I won't mention **Teresa's** or **Tom and Jackie's (#2)** names here to be polite).

One Dipper decided a rock looked like an egg (**John Snyder (#3)** would you like to help me make stone soup?) but later corrected it.

And one very lazy Dipper sent in this entry in (**#4**). This last one was tuff to judge. Although all 13 eggs were circled so were several rocks and trees. I had to put this one up to a vote and the suggestions were:

- 1) Award a pillow for being so lazy
- 2) Award a pillow and Cheetos for being so lazy
- 3) Award a pillow and Flaming Hot Cheetos for being so lazy
- 4) Award a pillow and Flaming Hot Cheetos for being so lazy, but be too lazy to award it
- 5) Skip all this and just give him the Golden Dippy

You will have to ZOOM in on the next dive club meeting to find out the answer. 🌟



DIVE & ACTIVITY CALENDAR

ABBY GOLDEN WILSON

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MAY 2020

★ NOTICE ★

With the “stay-at-home,” 10 person social gathering and 6-foot social distance order in place around the state, to deal with the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, both the April Business and General Meetings will be “virtual” meetings. All previously scheduled activities are to be determined (TBD).

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 5
BUSINESS MEETING 7:30 PM**
NO BBQ - The meeting **virtually**. All members are invited to attend, please email **Carl Tuttle** or **Abby Golden Wilson** if you need the link to join. Bring your own food, drinks, and internet connection and let’s discuss ideas for how we can stay connected while apart!

**SATURDAY, MAY 9
SECOND SATURDAY SCUBA (S3) - POINT LOBOS DIVE**
This month’s S3 dive will be postponed due to the Shelter In Place Mandate due to COVID-19. All dive reservations have been canceled by the state park system.

**SATURDAY, MAY 16
NO SCHEDULED DIVE**

GENERAL MEETING WEDNESDAY, MAY 20

7:30 PM

Celebrate 56 Years of the San Jose Flipper Dippers.

Join us online to celebrate SJFD’s 56th Birthday! Virtual meeting invites will be sent to all members, but everyone is welcome to join in the fun!

Please contact us on our website, or email the club VP, Abby Golden Wilson (abbygolden15@gmail.com), if you would like to attend.



**THURS, MAY 22 - MON, MAY 25
MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND**
TBD Due to COVID19, the planned camping trip in Big Sur may be canceled. We will provide updates

on this event as we get closer to the weekend. Coordinator: **Carl Tuttle** (408-829-3660, tutcomms@sbcglobal.net). A couple of Dippers have sites. Contact Carl to see about sharing space. Scuba diving, spearfishing, bike riding and campfires.

UPCOMING IN JUNE - TBD
03 Business Meeting
13 Second Saturday SCUBA – Boat Dive
17 General Meeting – Food Drive



Which Group Are You? Diver’s I.Q. Review Answers



- A bind/A leap/A school/A shoal/A run/A draught of salmon
- A company of angelfish
- A family of sardines
- A fleet/A shoal of bass
- A float of tuna
- A flotilla of swordfish
- A glint/A troubling of goldfish
- A herd of seahorses
- A party of rainbow fish
- A school of cod
- A shiver/A school/A shoal of sharks
- A shoal/A catch/A draught/A fray/A haul/A run/A school of fish
- A shoal of mackerel
- A squad of squid
- A swarm of dragonet fish
- A troupe of shrimp

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

2020 COMING EVENTS

May 6	Business Meeting - Virtual
May 9	Second Saturday SCUBA Pt. Lobos - Canceled
May 20	🐡 General Meeting - Virtual
May 22-25	Memorial Day Weekend - Big Sur - TBD
June 3	Business Meeting - TBD
June 13	Second Saturday SCUBA - Boat Dive - TBD
June 17	🐡 General Meeting - Food Drive - TBD
July 1	Business Meeting
July 4	No License Fishing Day
July 11	Second Saturday SCUBA
July 12	Panther Beach Clean Up
July 15	🐡 General Meeting
July 25	Halibut Dive

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



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