

NEWSLETTER



San Jose Flipper Dippers

NOVEMBER 2020

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



DAN COVID-19 Study

DAN (Divers Alert Network) is looking for divers and freedivers who have recovered or are recovering from suspected or confirmed COVID-19 infection. We are conducting a five-year study on the effects of the virus on divers' health and fitness to dive. DAN aims to collect information from up to 1,000 adult divers with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 infection, document recovery time and severity of the acute phase of their infection, and document diving practices and medical issues/health problems possibly encountered while diving after recovery from the disease.

How the study works: You qualify for this study, if you have/had a confirmed or suspected COVID-19 infection. If you decide to participate, you will receive a series of up to nine online surveys over the course of the next 5 years at various time points with regards to dates, symptoms, and practices during your infection, recovery, and return to diving. This initial survey should not take longer than 15-20 minutes, and each follow-up survey no longer than 5-10 minutes to complete.

Benefits to you: There are no direct benefits to you participating in the study. However, the results of this study will assist physicians in creating reliable guidelines for divers who have contracted COVID-19 infection and plan to return to diving.

Withdrawal from Study: You may withdraw from this study at any time for any reason without penalty. The investigators also have the right to stop your participation at any time without explanation. After the study has been closed and your identifying information has been removed from the data for final analysis, it will not be possible to identify and remove your data from the study anymore.

Interested in Participating? Visit: www.research.net/r/DANcovidstudy ★



First Aid & CPR class is a safe bet Just ask the guy laying on the floor

Dippers, from left, *Jackie Gardner, Howard Chien, Barbara Zwieg, Tom Gardner* and *Howard Timoney* participated in the First Aid and CPR class taught by **Brian Zaugg**, below. There was also a PADI Rescue Diver class taught by Brian in October. You can feel safe diving with anyone who took the classes. This is one of the benefits to being a member of the San Jose Flipper Dippers! And that guy on the floor? He was left speechless! ★



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PRESIDENT'S CORNER



It's already closing in on November. We had several Club members take the PADI Scuba Rescue class and a First Responder class these last few weeks. These are things every diver needs to know. There is also an O2 class being taught this Sunday Nov. 1st at Diver Dan's to round out the training session.

At this month's General Meeting we will be having the Nominations for 2021 Club Officers. If you want to participate because you have new ideas or thoughts on what to do, then please run. The present club officers are more than willing to give you a chance to lead.

Even though the Holidays are close, there are still things to do with the Flipper Dippers' Dive Club. There is the Second Saturday Scuba (S3) dive on November 14th, which is 2 weeks away and then the Wine and Appetizer Tasting at **Teresa Hanson's** house on November 21st (Social distancing and masks required).

Also, if you haven't yet paid your annual dues please remember to do so. This year the dues are only \$30.

If you are interested in the Flipper Dippers' photography contest, let **Jackie Gardner** know so she can open the competition.

One more note, don't forget that the time to make reservations for the 2021 Memorial Day Weekend is November 26th. Even though there won't be any abalone diving there are still a lot of fun things to do. Last year we went to Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park and are planning to camp there for 4 days again. See the activity calendar on page 7 for information.

We are looking for a venue to have our Club's Annual Awards Banquet on January 23, 2021, assuming Covid doesn't present too big of a problem. If anybody has any ideas please present them so that we can look at them.

The last week has been very windy with somewhat less than ideal conditions for diving. Hopefully the winds will die down and we'll have a chance to experience much better winter diving.

– Your president **Tom**



San Jose Flipper Dippers

www.SJFlipperDippers.com

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Jackie Gardner 408-274-9447

SERGEANT AT ARMS

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CLUB COMMITTEES

AWARDS AND FINES

o Position Open o

CLUB PROPERTY

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TROPHY COMPETITION

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Diver's I.Q. Review Corner

This month we have One (1) Question that is worth knowing the answer to.

Question: After repetitive scuba dives in Monterey or Carmel and you think you have Decompression Sickness (DCS) should you drive yourself, or have someone take you, to the Pacific Grove Hyperbaric Chamber?



See page 7 for the correct answer.

Good Luck!





Join us online at our virtual November General Meeting for a great time to share your latest dive stories and the Nominations for 2021 Club Officers. ☆

RAFFLE NEWS

Leigh Hartley Tuttle

Well, we're still waiting, and waiting, and waiting. Hopefully the new year will find us meeting in person and not via Webex. Hang on to those dollars for when we can get together! ☆

MEMBERSHIP

Teresa Hanson

We have voted in a new member: **Howard Chien**. Welcome Howard to the San Jose Flipper Dippers! We're always on the look-out for new divers who are looking

for someone to dive with. So be sure to pass on this newsletter to anyone you know. See the Club's Website for more information. Contact **Teresa** for additional information on any and all Membership Requirements.

Happy birthday! If we had a regular General Meeting, a FREE raffle ticket would be given to **Tom Gardner, Teresa Hanson** and **John Snyder** who all made it another 584 million miles around the Sun in only 365 days without any help! ☆

CLUB DUES DUE - Don't Delay

It is October and time to pay **annual dues**. Because we can't have in-person meetings dues have been reduced to \$30 this year. Dues help cover a number of expenses including the newsletter printing and the Club's Website. Each member will also be asked to sign an "Assumption of Risk Agreement" when dues are paid. These forms are available on the Club's Website. Since we're not able to have in-person meetings, send a signed copy with your dues in the mail to: **Jackie Gardner**, 2986 Everdale Court, San Jose, CA 95148. (Contact Jackie if you want to pay your dues in cash).

Club Dues this year are \$30.00 and **\$10.00** per year to receive this Newsletter via the U.S. Postal Service. Or download it FREE each month from the Club's Website in full color. Charter and Lifetime Members will continue to receive the Newsletter by U.S. mail.

CenCal (Central California Council of Diving Clubs) dues are **\$15.00** and USofA (Underwater Society of America) dues are **\$20.00**. (Pay online at: www.cencal.org). These optional dues support the many efforts of CenCal and USofA on behalf of all divers in the areas of beach access along with conservation and state and national legislation. These two organizations form an effective method for presenting the divers' interests state-wide and nationally.

A summary of our annual dues is as follows:

CLUB	\$ 30.00
Newsletter (U.S. Mail)	10.00
Optional	
CEN CAL	15.00
USofA	20.00

Remember, associate member (non-diving spouses of Dippers) dues are **\$5.00**. Associate members may attend Dipper functions at member prices, but have no voting privileges. Also, dues must be paid by November 30th or you will incur a late fee of \$5.00. SO DON'T DELAY! ☆

NOMINATIONS FOR 2021 CLUB OFFICERS

HOW ABOUT YOU?



At the **November General Meeting** we will be nominating Club members for the following offices: **President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer** and **Sergeant at Arms**. To be eligible to hold an office, one must be a current member in good standing. Presidential nominees must have been a club member for at least two years. Holding an office is a rewarding experience as well as being of benefit to the club. **This is your chance to get involved** and voice your ideas as to the future of the San Jose Flipper Dippers. **The Election** of our officers will take place at the December General Meeting.

Duties of our Club Officers are as follows:

PRESIDENT: Has overall responsibility for the club's success. Presides at all general, business and special meetings and appoints standing committees for the year and special committees as seen fit. Also includes writing a monthly *President's Corner* for the newsletter.

VICE PRESIDENT: Responsible for scheduling of the dive calendar each month, arranging for dive coordinators, and writing the monthly calendar article for the newsletter. Includes presiding at all meetings in the absence of the President.

SECRETARY: Includes maintaining the minutes for all general and business meetings and handling club-related correspondence. Responsible for attending all meetings or making arrangements for someone to handle the duties in his/her absence.

TREASURER: Receives membership dues and handles all income and expenses, maintains financial records and makes monthly reports to the club. Also makes deposits into the club's accounts and issues checks for authorized expenses. Maintains expense accounts as needed for events such as boat dives, banquets, etc.

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Includes making arrangements for all meetings and setting up necessary meeting equipment. Maintains order at the meetings and collects fines levied upon members. ☆

Bond, James Bond

As this newsletter was being produced it was reported that Sir Sean Connery, aka James Bond, Agent 007, had died at the age of 90. Sir Sean died peacefully in his sleep in the Bahamas, having been “unwell for some time,” his son said. No doubt, many people were fascinated with the scuba diving in the 1965 movie *Thunderball* and were eager to learn to dive in this beautiful underwater world.



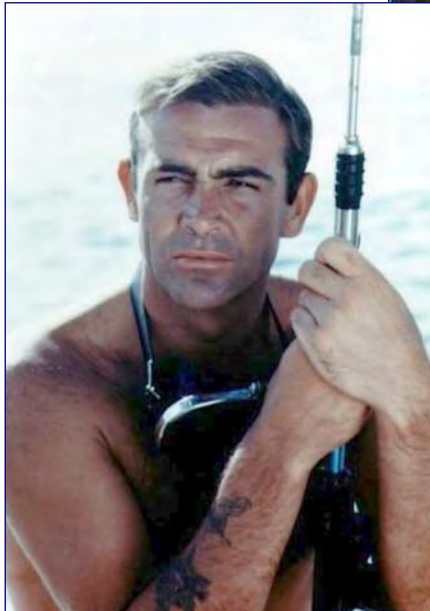
dropped Vulcan bomber are close to one another and within a five minute diving range. The close proximity of the famous James Bond Wrecks to Stuart Cove’s dive shop is fitting, as Cove himself worked with Connery during the filming and production of both movies. In fact, the Tears of Allah wreck featured in the movie *Never Say Never Again* was purposely sunk by Cove specifically for the production of the film. And it’s no coincidence that the 90-foot shipwreck was placed beside its predecessor, the Vulcan bomber

plane from the film *Thunderball*.

In the movie, led by one-eyed evil mastermind Emilio Largo, the terrorist group SPECTRE hijacks two warheads from a NATO plane and threatens widespread nuclear destruction to extort 100 million pounds. The dashing Agent 007, James Bond, is sent to recover the warheads from the heart of Largo’s lair in the Bahamas, facing underwater attacks from sharks and men alike. He must also convince the enchanting Domino, Largo’s mistress, to become a key ally.

Divers come from around the world to explore the double-wreck dive from the 007 films, and for good reason. Both of the film props are thriving artificial reefs, and create a stunning visual for divers — even if they aren’t familiar with the James Bond films. R.I.P., James. 🌟

The most difficult sequences to film were the underwater action scenes and the first to be shot underwater was at a depth of 50 feet to shoot the scene where SPECTRE divers remove the atomic bombs from the sunken Vulcan bomber. Most of the underwater scenes had to be done at lower tides due to the sharks in the Bahamian sea. Connery was wary of scenes involving the use of sharks, such as the scene where Bond is trapped in a shark-infested pool. He insisted that a special Plexiglas partition be built inside the pool but, despite this, it was not a fixed structure and one of the sharks managed to pass through it forcing Connery to abandon the pool immediately. Another situation occurred when special effects coordinator brought in a supposed dead shark carcass to be towed around the pool. The shark, however, was not dead and revived at one point.



October's S3 Dive – Oops!

Dippers, lead by **Barbara Davis**, were scheduled to meet at Carmel River State Beach for the October 10 Second Saturday SCUBA (S3) dive. But the gate was still locked when a number of divers arrived. So Barbara contacted everyone by text messages that the dive was moving to South Monastery Beach. **John Snyder, Carl Tuttle, Manuel Mangrobang, Ken Agur** and prospective member **Sergei Kuznetsov** met Barbara for the dive. Barbara, John and Carl brought their kayaks to paddle out to some kelp beds while Manuel, Ken and Sergei buddied up.

Unfortunately, Manuel had some issues with over heating while making his way to the beach – with his double side-mount tanks – and backed out of the dive. He stayed at his car and drank a lot of fluids and kept out of the sun to recover. Ken and Sergei continued with their beach dive.



A great day for diving with kayaks . . . until.

John, Carl and Barbara launched their kayaks and found some fairly good conditions with about 20-foot vis in 60-70 feet of depth. After the dive while climbing on top of his kayak Carl, lost his balance and went over the other side. At that moment, his 25-pound weightbelt popped off and dropped to the bottom in about 70 feet of water.

Barbara had extra air in her tank and offered to retrieve it. While she started putting her gear back on Carl deployed his anchor and line hoping it would aid Barbara in finding the weightbelt.

It seemed to take forever watching Barbara's bubbles from the surface. After some time she started coming up only to get tangled in the kelp. Her face popped up in the kelp gasping for air . . . while holding onto the found weightbelt!



Above, Ken, the “Selfie King,” and Sergei getting ready for their dive.

John brought over his kayak and she held on to his safety rope while Carl took his weightbelt from her. John then proceeded to use his knife to cut away some of the kelp and help untangle Barbara. It was a close call as Barbara's tank was almost completely empty! After the fact Carl, said there was a clip on the weightbelt she could have attached to the anchor. If only she had known . . .

Upon paddling back to the beach and getting their kayaks out of the water, Barbara asked, “So, you boys want to do a second dive?” Carl and John decided they'd had enough excitement for the day. ★



Above, Carl says, “It’s OK, I got this . . .” while attempting to pick up Barbara’s kayak – after Barbara displayed her superior search and recovery skills during their dive.

Upcoming November 14th S3 Dive - Stillwater Cove, Carmel

The November 14 Second Saturday Scuba (S3) dive will be at Stillwater Cove off 17-Mile Drive in Carmel. Stillwater Cove is the coastal access of the Pebble Beach golf course and it is a truly beautiful place to visit.

The beach access is on the golf club property and as such it is subject to an entry fee of \$10.50 per vehicle (Cash is king). The entry fee covers access to the water front, parking and permission to motor along the scenic 17 Mile Drive.

To get to Stillwater Cove Beach, turn off 17 Mile Drive onto Palmero Way and then follow Cypress Drive to the end at the Beach Club. Parking is tight and divers are advised to arrive early to find a convenient parking space. You can offload stuff at the beach access next to the pier, but you'll have to park back at the tennis club or Casa Palmera parking lots if the spots near the pier are full. There are two all-gender bathrooms with attached hot water showers near the pier.

The cove earns its name as it is far more protected than other sites in the Carmel area. Stillwater Cove lies on the north side of Carmel Bay, and the cove is protected by Pescadero Point. In the center of the cove are the massive Pescadero Rocks. ★

Dippers took out their kayaks at Stillwater Cove (March 2013). From left: Barbara Davis, Howard Timoney, Carl Tuttle, Jim Rezowalli and Anton Dold.



Boats off Spain damaged in orca encounters

Maritime authorities in Spain have warned sailors off the coast of Galicia to give orcas a wide berth after a naval yacht lost part of its rudder following a brush with two of the whales and a similar incident left a French boat with minor damage. Both encounters took place hours apart in the Rías Baixas area of north-west Spain. The French boat was found to have marks consistent with the orcas rubbing against its hull, while the Mirfak – a Spanish naval yacht en route to a regatta – lost part of its rudder after the boat attracted the animals' attention.

A video shot by the one of the Mirfak's crew shows the animals swimming alongside and underneath the boat before the sailors realize the rudder has been damaged. Spain's maritime rescue service warned vessels in the area of the presence of the orcas, and asked sailors "to keep their distance, give them a lot of leeway and inform the coastguard".

Experts from the Co-ordinator for the Study of Marine Mammals (Cemma) in the Galician town of Nigrán are

investigating the episodes, which they describe as highly unusual. Alfredo López, a biologist at Cemma, said orcas were usually spotted off Galicia in September each year when the whales make their way up from the Gulf of Cádiz and follow tuna into the Bay of Biscay. "We're looking into the matter but we don't yet have all the information we need to draw a clear conclusion," López told the Guardian. He said the "interaction" with the French boat had taken place at about midday on Sunday, while the Mirfak had



encountered the orcas about five hours later in the same area. "We managed to get a look at the French boat, which showed evidence of contact of the animal brushing up against the hull, but there was no evidence of structural damage in that case," he said. "The navy boat seems to have broken its rudder, but we're waiting to see if they'll let us examine it and the rest of the boat."

López said he and his colleagues were in touch with teams in Portugal to check through similar cases there and to determine whether the same animals were involved. He added: "These interactions are very rare and aren't something we've seen here before." Orcas, also known as killer whales, can weight up to six tons and live for up to 80 years. ★

DIVE & ACTIVITY CALENDAR

ABBY GOLDEN WILSON

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NOVEMBER 2020

★ NOTICE ★

With the social distance order in place around the state to deal with the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, both the Business and General Meetings will be “virtual” meetings.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1 O2 PROVIDER COURSE

This course will be a four-hour session held at Diver Dan’s in Santa Clara.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4 BUSINESS MEETING 7:30 PM

The business meeting will be held **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, NOVEMBER 14 SECOND SATURDAY SCUBA (S3) STILLWATER COVE, CARMEL

Coordinator: **Jackie Gardner**. 408-274-9447, email: tomandjackieus@yahoo.com. Meet at 8:00 A.M. Bring 2 tanks and plan on making a 2nd dive under the water. As this dive is before the General Meeting, you’ll need to contact Jackie.

Kayaks are welcome too. See additional information on page 6.

GENERAL MEETING WEDNESDAY, NOV 18

7:30 PM

Celebrating 56 Years

Join us online for our Virtual General Meeting via WebEx. Virtual meeting – everyone is welcome to join in the fun!

Nominations for 2021 Officers

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



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21 WINE TASTING & MINI-PICNIC

Gathering starts at 1:30 PM. Wine Tasting & Mini-Picnic will be **HELD OUTDOORS** at **Teresa Hanson’s** home (408-966-6433, teresa33b@gmail.com). **NOTE: Social distancing and masks required. In case of rain, this event will be canceled.** All members are invited to attend. This is a fun time to share your favorite wine and see how others rate it.

Scorecards will be provided. Bring a bottle (\$20 value suggested) of a Chardonnay or a red wine with a brief description of the wine. Be sure to conceal the bottle in a bag. Also, bring an appetizer to share too (the BBQ will be fired up).

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26 RESERVATIONS FOR MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND –

MAY 26, 2021 The Club is planning to camp 4 nights and dive at Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park during Memorial Day Weekend May 26-29, 2021 (Wed–Sat). Make your camping reservations now at Reserve California www.reservecalifornia.com or call 1-800-444-4445

THURSDAY,
NOVEMBER 26
Happy
Thanksgiving



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28 NO SCHEDULED DIVE



UPCOMING IN DECEMBER
02 Business Meeting - Virtual
12 Second Saturday SCUBA
16 General Meeting – Virtual
Election of Officers



Diver’s I.Q. Review Answer (from page 2)

Medical Emergency or Dive Related Concern? Call 9-1-1 or Divers Alert Network International Emergency Hotline (919-684-9111) and be evaluated at the nearest



emergency medical facility as soon as possible. You must be referred by a physician to be treated. The Pacific Grove Hyperbaric Chamber (PGHC) does not take walk-ins!

The PADI Rescue Diver ocean sessions, taught by **Brian Zaugg**, included Dippers’ students **Howard Chien**, **Howard Timoney**, **Tom** and **Jackie Gardner**, and **Teresa Hanson**. After the second day, which involved finding and saving a lost buddy, the class was treated to a tour of the PG hyperbaric chamber. The chamber is used to treat carbon monoxide victims as well as divers. It was reported that with the widespread use of dive computers, chamber use by divers has decreased drastically over the last several years. Still, victims must go to a hospital first, though, to be evaluated. The chamber is not used for burn victims as in the past as hospitals are now fully equipped to treat them.

In the photo, **Meg Donat**, training and education coordinator, left, discusses functions while Tom Gardner listens. ★

☛ **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

Nov 4	Business Meeting
Nov 14	Second Saturday SCUBA
Nov 18	👉 General Meeting Nominations for Office
Nov 21	Wine Tasting & Picnic
Nov 27	Reservations Memorial Day Weekend (May 27, 2021)

Dec 2	Business Meeting
Dec 12	Second Saturday SCUBA
Dec 16	👉 General Meeting Election for Office

Upcoming in 2021

Jan 6	Business Meeting
Jan 9	Second Saturday SCUBA
Jan 20	👉 General Meeting
Jan 23	Annual Awards Banquet
Jan 27	Annual Planning Meeting

*ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET
Mark Your Calendars:
Saturday, January 23, 2021*

The Flipper Dippers' Annual Awards Banquet will be on January 23, 2021. The banquet menu and location is being finalized. Details to come. 🌟



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



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