

NEWSLETTER



San Jose Flipper Dippers

MARCH
2022

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

Dive report: Monastery Beach, Saturday, Feb. 19

Howard Timoney

Your Deposed President, Former Emperor and Dear Leader for Life's gills were drying out. Conditions were not the greatest during the week of February 14. I have a project management / forecasting tool that has been invaluable to me in construction management. I decided to see if it would work for dive conditions. After asking if conditions would be good and getting a favorable answer, I sent out a few texts, calls and e-mails to see if there was any interest in a Saturday, February 19 Dive.



Donovan Hill and **Cedric Wright** met at my house. We loaded up the blue beast, a quick drive to Gilroy to pick up **Barbara Davis** and we were off to Monastery Beach. **Ken**

Agur, eager to get in the water, showed up a bit early to pre-check the conditions for us. He texted us favorable photos on our way down.

Monastery was flat, the water looked good, and the sun was out. We suited up and entered at the south end. During the surface swim we couldn't help noticing the water looked clear. We dropped into about 30' of water with visibility at about 30 feet. We attempted to find Barbara's favorite reef but missed it. After about 10 minutes of swimming over sand flats, we turned left and met up with the rock reef.

The urchin barrens were there, but there was still some healthy reef life and several areas with kelp starting spring growth. Barbara spotted an eel hunkering down in a hole in the rocks, and a lone

sea lion swam by to check us out. We turned around at half a tank and swam back to shore.

Unfortunately, it seems like somebody has been re-grading Monastery beach making the climb up the slope harder than usual.

After an hour break, we geared up and headed out for our second dive. Ken sat out the second dive and took over shore patrol while we dove. Second dive was a repeat of the first except for swimming over the sand flats.

We got into dry clothes and went to Crossroads BBQ for a yummy delicious and highly nutritious warm lunch.



Screen shot from Ken's GoPro video on FaceBook of a friendly seal.

Scorecard:

- First dive; 5 divers in, 5 divers out 64' for 38 minutes
- Second dive; 4 divers in, 4 divers out 51' for 39 minutes
- Easy entry and exit.
- Steep climb up the beach
- 30' plus visibility
- 51 degrees cold
- 1 Sea lion
- 1 Eel
- Urchin barrens
- Usual Monastery critters
- Lunch at Crossroads BBQ

And the moral of the story: It was a great day, and a good time was had by all. You should have gone diving. ☆

Kona Aggressor II has Taken its Last Voyage From Under Current



After 33 years, Aggressor CEO Wayne Brown has announced that after extensive top-side remodeling, the workers discovered that hull repairs of the 79-foot catamaran would require removing the entire superstructure adding another \$500,000 to renovation. That's too much for the old boat, so the vessel owner has ceased operations. Thousands of divers have good memories of their trips aboard, so cherish them now since, sadly, you won't get a chance to relive them. However, in May, the *British Virgin Islands Aggressor* (formerly the *Cayman Aggressor V*) begins operating. As always, we recommend that you let the craft make a few voyages to work out the kinks and find good dive sites before you join a charter. ☆

What's Inside?



President's Corner 2
Treasure Hunting 3
Double Down 3
Chilling Story 4
Beach Dive 6
Dippers' Friend 7
Activity Calendar 7

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Hi All, Conditions have been variable so far this year, but we had some good dives so far! Let's keep it up! We have a number of prospective members who will be looking to dive with us in the coming months. Come and dive with the Club on our regularly scheduled S3 dives and consider signing up to coordinate a dive yourself!

I wanted to give a shout-out to **Keith Roostaert** and the Giant Kelp Restoration project (G2KR.com). Keith has been tireless in his efforts to help cull the purple sea urchins that have decimated our local kelp. Let's give him a hand! For the latest updates, please attend the G2KR Update Webinar on Tuesday, March 15th, 6 – 7 pm for updates on the project status and plans for the 2022 season.

In February, several Dippers participated in some urchin culling dives with the G2KR project. To date, we have 3 Dippers who have completed the Kelp Restoration Specialist certification and are thus qualified to participate in the urchin culling dives. A number of other Dippers have expressed interest, so let's see if we can get more Dippers certified to participate in this important project. Meetup dives will be scheduled throughout the year. Non-certified divers can attend one meetup before becoming certified kelp restoration divers, so come out and see what it's all about.

I look forward to seeing you all in the water soon.

Let's go diving!

– **Barbara**

Let's Get Involved with the G2KR Project and Save our Kelp!

All Dippers are invited to attend the Giant Kelp Restoration (G2KR) Tanker's Reef Project March Update Webinar on **Tuesday, March 15th, from 6:00 – 7:00 pm** for updates on the project status and plans for the 2022 season. Here is the Zoom link for the meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/92422957346>.

For certified Kelp Restoration Specialist divers, the BeachHopperII has scheduled urchin culling dive charters on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Upcoming dates are March 2, 10, 16, 24 and 30. The G2KR team will also be scheduling meetup dives on weekends throughout the year. Non kelp restoration specialist certified divers can participate in one meetup before getting their certification. (Certification is available at various local dive shops, including Aquarius and Bamboo Reef in Monterey.)

In November 2021, a petition to expand kelp restoration in Monterey was presented to the Fish and Game Commission. The Commission's latest meeting was 2/16/22. Keith Roostaert and others involved in the project made presentations and then several people (including your President, Barbara Davis) spoke in support of the petition during the public comment period. While one commissioner did favor the project, the petition was not approved (by a 4 to 1 vote). Other commissioners had concerns about extending the project into MPAs, including feeling more research is needed and that an overarching project/approach is still under development. They also noted that expanding into other areas (not MPAs) is an option. We can provide additional support for this petition going forward.

More information is available on the group's main website: g2kr.com. 🌟



San Jose Flipper Dippers

www.SJFlipperDippers.com

Follow and Like Us on Facebook

CLUB OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Barbara Davis 408-656-6390

VICE PRESIDENT

Tom Gardner 408-274-9447

SECRETARY

Grace Chi 858-337-2674

TREASURER

Jackie Gardner 408-274-9447

SERGEANT AT ARMS

Howard Chien 408-410-0325

CLUB COMMITTEES

AWARDS AND FINES

o Position Open o

MEMBERSHIP

Ken Agur 408-242-3779

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

o Position Open o

STAR ACHIEVEMENT

Jackie Gardner 408-274-9447

TROPHY COMPETITION

John Snyder 408-378-4963

RAFFLE NEWS

We had a few more in-person attendees at the February General Meeting and online. We're still in a holding pattern for our monthly raffle. But hold on! There could be a Big Raffle during our planned 'Christmas in July' gathering. So stay tuned . . . ★



MEMBERSHIP

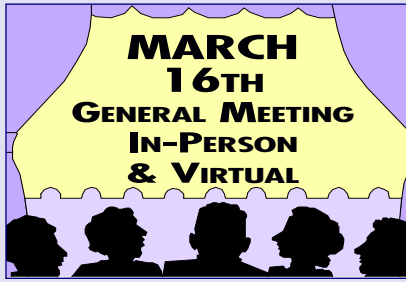
Ken Agur

We had prospective members come to some past dives and are getting close to joining the Club. Remember, any certified diver is welcome to join in on our dives.

All certified divers are welcome to join in on our dives!

See the monthly calendar for locations and contact information the coordinator.

Happy birthday! These Dippers have made it through another year, and have been diving, too! *Carri Edgar* and *Don Mercado*. ★



We'll be having our in-person General Meeting this month. If you come please bring a refreshment to share – safely! We'll again have a live Skype connection to communicate with those who still prefer to meet virtually. ★

Dive Report: Boat Dive, Feb. 12th on the Double Down

Grace Chi – Photos by Mike Chalup

Dippers *Manny Mangrobang, Barbara Davis, Howard Chin, Mike Chalup*, me and a friend Matt gathered at K-dock for the S3 boat dive on the *Double Down*. This was the first time anyone had been on the boat and with the forecast predicting calm seas, we were hoping we would be able to dive Carmel.

The captain, Rick, gave us a boat briefing before we left the dock and introduced us to Critter, who would also be helping us with getting on and off. The boat was aluminum and could hold up to 6 divers. Since I can be lazy about putting on sunscreen, I appreciated the covered deck. The plan was we would head to Carmel if the conditions allowed.

The ride was fast and bumpy from hitting the water. Barbara and I eventually sat on the floor, which we'd recommend doing on future trips. I was also tired of getting splashed, however small they were – I was diving dry after all! At one point, Rick asked if we wanted to continue, predicting that the ride would be about equivalent to what we had been experiencing. He was confident he could handle the water, but wasn't sure if we were up to it. We all responded with an enthusiastic yes and stopped at Inner Pinnacle.

Howard and Manny formed one group while Barbara, Matt, and me formed another group. Options for getting into the water included back rolling off the side or giant

striding from the platform in the back. As recommended, we went down the anchor line. The site had interesting structures with canyons and plenty of life everywhere. Fish were on the larger side with the occasional school. There was mild surge and viz was approximately 50 ft. Barbara practiced deploying her dSMB during the safety stop. Our dive was 52 minutes, max depth 82-feet, and the water was 52 degrees.

For the second site we went to Pescadero Wash Rock, which was a short ride away. During the surface interval, Rick and Critter changed some of our tanks over. We had the same dive buddies and down the anchor line we went. The surge had picked up and viz deteriorated to 30 ft. Our dive kicked off with 5 sea lions cruising by. We were looking for a swimthrough Matt had done before but turned around before we could find it. Similar to the first site, there were lots of life, which unfortunately included a lot more purple urchins this time. The dive was 48 minutes, max depth 68ft, and water temp of 54. Both sites were near the Pebble Peach golf course.

As we headed back, one of the motors was having problems so we went back on the remaining motor. Thankfully we weren't too far away. Rick stopped by A dock to freshwater hose our gear off and a few of us took up the offer to also get hosed off. I didn't realize until recently how nice it was to get the salt out of my hair, even if it was only for the rest of the day. With a friendly crew and fast boat, the consensus was we'd do this again. ★



Barbara and Howard are good-to-go.



Grace is all about staying dry during her dives.

A chilling story out of the past

Hi San Jose Flipper Dippers! I'm Doug Floyd, from the old San Francisco Flipper Dippers – which spun-off from your San Jose dive club in the late 1960s.

I was going through some old papers/memorabilia and came across this old Pacific Underwater News, dated May, 1968. The S.F. Dippers were the first organized club to do an ice dive in California.

This occurred at Donner Lake near Reno in early 1968. We went out on the ice, and took a long steel pry bar, and cut a hole about 6-ft x 6-ft. Then we shoved the broken ice back under the shelf. The depth here was about 50 feet

We then suited up, donned our SCUBA tanks, tied a line around our right wrist (each diver had a 'handler' on the surface) and two divers at a time went down. We arranged with the 'handlers' that one tug meant more line, three tugs meant "pull me up!"

You've seen the old cartoons where someone under the ice had a shaft of light to follow to the hole in the surface? Not here. The vis was about 5-feet, very murky. There really wasn't much to see, a few crawdads and small fish. One thing that did capture my curiosity was an old tree stump that was covered with old fishing lures, snagged by summer trollers. The stump looked like a Christmas Tree.

The photos in the article are of the group of us divers holding the chunk of ice that we cut through. It also shows the first divers heading down. (Note the divers down flag on our steel ice cutting pole.) Also, that is a very young me holding the ice chunk.

Kindly understand, I'm not bragging (too much), I thought that this Flipper Dipper history was worth sharing. Thanks for sending me your monthly news letter. 🌟



Pacific EDITION OF —
UNDERWATER NEWS

25¢

(3-4-22) DISTRIBUTED NATIONALLY May, 1968

Boat Trip Schedule
See Pages 1 and 3

California Planning Underwater Parks

NAUI Instructor Named New Editor of Underwater News

Ice Diving in California

Diver explores possible site for Underwater State Park. An Underwater Advisory Board has been established of 11 underwater experts by the State Dept. of Parks and Recreation to study possible locations. (see story inside).

Blue Coral found only at the Farnsworth Banks? "Not so," says Elwyn Gates who spotted the fluorescent blue animal while diving at San Clemente Island aboard the "Sea Urchin." Diving in 50 feet of water with the La Mesa Unlimiteds, Mike Neil and Les Shepard made this collection recently. — By Mike Pizula.

AVAILABLE FOR CHARTER — A new charter dive boat, the 50-ft. SCUBA KING, is carrying divers from the Ventura and Santa Barbara, Calif. areas to the off-shore islands of Santa Cruz, Santa Rosa, San Miguel, Anacapa, and San Nicholas. The SCUBA KING boasts a compressor, 24 bunks, TV, and gallery. For more information contact Kennie Lamb at the Marina Divers Supply, 1506 Anchors Way Dr., Ventura, Calif. 93003. Ph: (805) 642-2359 or 643-6451 or 648-6211.

The cover of the May 1968 issue of **Underwater News** which was published monthly by Sportsman's Press, Inc. out of Newport Beach, California. Subscriptions were \$5 for 20 issues or \$9 for 40 issues.

San Francisco Flipper Dippers Go Under the Ice at Donner Lake



ICE DIVERS — San Francisco Flipper Dippers (left to right) Norm Heller, Rod Fuselier, Doug Floyd, and John Greig hold a piece of ice cut from entry hole in Donner Lake on their recent ice dive. They claim this to be a "first" in California.



DIVER "UNDER" FLAG — Rod Fuselier and Doug Floyd prepare to enter Donner Lake through hole in ice. Note "Diver Down (Under) flag."

By Jack Stewart
Assoc. Editor, N.W. San Francisco Bay

The San Francisco Flipper Dippers recently held an "ice dive" at Donner Lake, California, and claim to be the first California club to dive under ice.

ED NOTE: Anybody like to dispute this, drop a note to our "Letters Dept."

It all started last August when member Rod Fuselier, on an unusually warm San Francisco evening, suggested an ice dive. Naturally Rod was put in charge and whenever things at a club meeting or outing got quiet, someone would always say, "Hey Rod, when are we going ice diving?" Rod did his homework well, and researching the project for both fun and safety. He corresponded with clubs in the Mid West and East to determine how to hold an ice dive.

The hard part was where to find a body of water in California with enough ice. Donner Lake in the High Sierras was selected. Donner Lake is almost to the Nevada state line on Highway 80 — 7,000 feet above our usual diving waters.

Rod and his spearfishing buddy, Phil Byrne, took off on Sunday, March 3, to scout the area. Each made a dive through the ice and took pictures. These

(Continued on page 6)

arine Parks alifornia

outer coast, the open coast, and the bay and estuary — in southern, central and northern California. Some sites proposed as examples in the report were La Jolla, San Diego County; Corona del Mar,

(Continued on page 10)

ATTENTION CLUBS

Put Underwater News on your mailing list to receive your club newsletters and bulletins.

Ice—

(Continued from page 1)

pictures were shown at the next club business meeting and it was hastily decided to have a club ice dive. On Sunday, March 10, seven cars of divers headed for the ice.

At Donner Lake a spot about fifty feet was chosen. Then it was back to the highway and on with the wet suits. People driving by did look at us as if we were a little crazy, and well, we didn't say we weren't. A six by four-foot hole was cut in the ice. This was a little harder than it sounds, as the ice was about 14 inches thick. The weather was great with blue skies and the outside temperature — 65 degrees. The water temperature was a nice 42

degrees.

Rod acted as dive master and helped the two man (or women) teams. Each diver had a 100-foot line tied to him and a line tender on shore. Another diver and tender were suited up and standing by at all times. Our "Divers Down Flag," was unfurled as soon as the hole was cut in the ice.

Under the ice, the visibility was down to an eerie eight feet and the sun was an odd green. Bottom, at the spot under our hole, was 45 feet and muddy. All that could be found was a redwood tree stump, a few crawfish and some fishing lures hooked on the redwood stump, left over from last summer.

After the dive, we adjourned to the lodge, some libations and a warm fire. As usual, for those sitting around the fire, the ice got thicker, the visibility shorter and the crawfish bigger. A good time was enjoyed by all eleven of the San Francisco Flipper Dippers who did dive under the ice.

Editor—

(Continued from page 1)

fessor at Santa Ana College in Santa Ana, Calif. Reseck also heads the college diver program;

Reseck's first love is spearfishing. Last year he accounted for 80 yellow-tail — and incidentally, all without using SCUBA.

He lives on a boat in the Newport Beach, Calif. area, and spends his uncommitted time cruising and diving the off-shore islands.



DACOR'S Fold-away Safety Vest

Most advanced change in safety vest design in 13 years.

It's up tight and out of sight until you need it. Then all you do is pull the string.



Dacor Quality Throughout

No longer need you be hampered by the flapping wings of a safety vest getting in the way of your saw gun or camera. This large vest folds into a compact unit only 10 inches by 16 inches. When you need it, it unfolds automatically to its full size — inflated by a big 16-gram CO₂ cartridge. Naturally you may use the convenient, non-corrosive mouth inflater if you prefer. Construction is Dacor-Quality throughout — rubberized materials, with seams heat fused and bonded for still more strength.

ASK FOR A DEMONSTRATION AT YOUR PRO DIVE SHOP

DACOR

CORPORATION

5190 CHURCH ST.
SKOKIE, ILL.

One of the ads in the May 1968 issue of *Underwater News*.

Feb. 12 Beach Dive: Breakwater

Jackie Gardner

While other Dippers where on the Double Down boat dive, **Tom Gardner** lead a beach dive. **Cedric Wright** joined in for the dive on a beautiful day with 75 degrees. We had a nice first dive along the wall as Cedric, Tom and Jackie were in water for 58 minutes and the water temper-

ature was 50 degrees. On the way back we practiced using our SMBs (surface marker buoy) in anticipation for our upcoming dive to the Red Sea. Tom and Cedric did a second dive to the metridiums and had 20-foot visibility. Cedric helped Tom with his fins as Tom had purchased new boots and found out the straps are a bit too tight. Good reason to check your new equipment before getting to the beach! 🌟



Oh, great . . . a SUP (stand-up paddle) boarder photo-bombs Jackie's perfect photo!



Cedric helps Tom with new booties . . . "What, you didn't check these out before the dive?"

Underwater Photographer of the Year

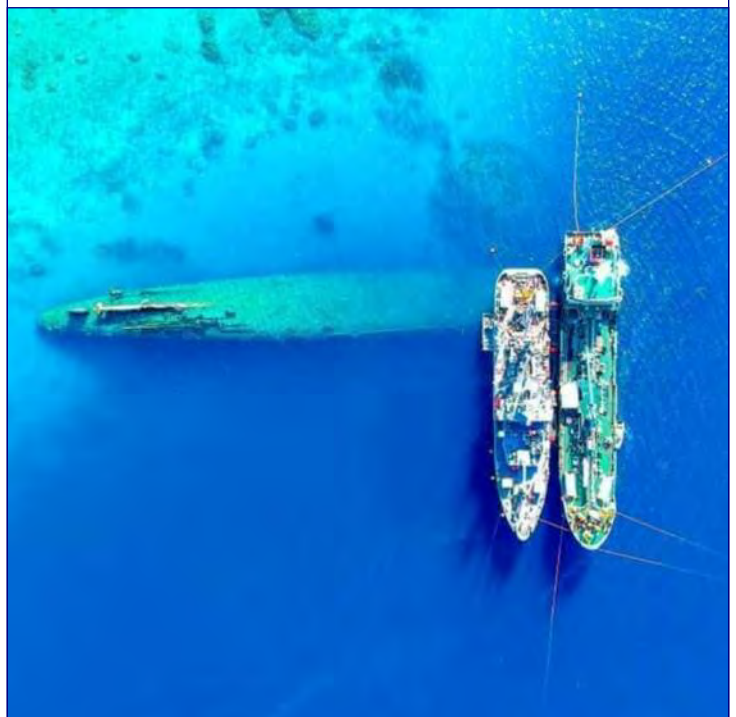
This year's competition attracted entries with the highest standards of imagery from around the world. Judges Alex Mustard, Tobias Friedrich, and Peter Rowlands reviewed work in 12 categories. Matty Smith of Australia won British Photographer of the Year with a stunning shot of a curious 14-foot Great White shark approaching the lens of his pole-cam off South Australia. Rafael Fernandez Caballero (Spain) won the top award as Underwater Photographer of the year. 🌟



Oil Recovered from WWII Ship

The Military Sealift Command salvage ship USNS Salvor (T-ARS 52) and products tanker Humber sit moored over the capsized World War II German heavy cruiser Prinz Eugen during an oil recovery project.

The U.S. Navy-led salvage team has successfully removed 229,000 gallons of oil from the sunken World War II vessel ex-Prinz Eugen located in the Kwajalein Atoll in the Marshall Islands. U.S. Navy photo by LeighAhn Ferrari, chief mate, U.S. Naval Ship Salvor. 🌟



DIVE & ACTIVITY CALENDAR

TOM GARDNER

www.SJFLIPPERDIPPERS.COM

MARCH 2022

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2 BUSINESS MEETING 7:30 PM

The meeting will be held **virtually via Skype**. All members are invited to attend. Please email **Carl Tuttle** if you need the link to join. Bring your own food, drinks, and internet connection and we'll discuss ideas for upcoming dives and events.

SATURDAY MARCH 5 NO SCHEDULED DIVE

**SATURDAY MARCH 12
SECOND SATURDAY SCUBA (S3)
BEACH DIVE** Coordinator **Howard Timoney**, (408-439-6822, howardt@comcast.net). Join me, Deposed President, Former Emperor and Dear Leader for Life for our regularly scheduled S3 dive. Dive site will be chosen based on the conditions and the skill level of the attending divers. Plan is to make a 2-tank dive. Meet at 8:00 AM. Let me know if you are interested.

GENERAL MEETING WEDNESDAY, MAR. 16th

The Dippers are excited to be hosting in-person and hybrid meetings!

The **in-person General Meeting** will be held at **7:30 PM** at the Knights of Columbus Santa Maria Hall 2211 Shamrock Dr., Campbell.

The **virtual meeting** will continue to be hosted via Skype.

Please contact **Carl Tuttle** for more details on the in person meeting or a link to the virtual Skype meeting.

Celebrate 57 Years of the San Jose Flipper Dippers

**Entertainment:
A Social Hour**



SATURDAY MARCH 19 NO SCHEDULED DIVE

SUNDAY MARCH 27 FOURTH SUNDAY CYCLE

Join us for our monthly Fourth Sunday Cycle led by **Jim Rezowalli**. Remember to bring a helmet, some water, and a snack. Please RSVP at jimandthebeach@gmail.com, 408-293-7390 to receive final details and any last minute updates!



UPCOMING IN APRIL

01 Pt. Lobos Reservations for May 14

05-16 Bonaire Dive Trips

06 Business Meeting

09 Second Saturday SCUBA

20 General Meeting

- SJFD 58 Years Old

23 U/W Easter Egg Hunt

24 Fourth Sunday Cycle (FSC)



The 2022 Dive & Activity Calendar has been posted on the Club's Website



13' Hypalon Achilles Inflatable Boat

For Sale: 13-ft.

Hypalon Achilles inflatable boat (2003) with 25 hp 2 cycle, long shaft Johnson engine (late 90s) (the transom is tall). Able to carry 2 divers with 4 tanks. Six gallon fuel tank. and 6-inch wide detachable boogie (sand) wheels



for the transom for launching – clip on/off or flip up. Anchor bucket with mushroom anchor and 90-ft of 3/4" braided rope and foot pump to inflate the boat. The boat and floor boards are packed in a heavy-duty plastic bag for easy transportation (photo). Asking \$2K or Best Offer. Contact former Dipper: **Steve Lodoen**, 408-903-3519, email: slo-doen@thegrid.net. ★



Friend of Flipper Dippers' Passes

Helen Conway, a long-time companion of former Club Charter Member **Bill Zschaler**, passed peacefully on February 2. She was 90-years young! Helen was a fixture for many years with Bill at the Dippers' Annual Seafood Dinner & Dance, attended the abalone dives and campouts at Van Damme State Park and Albion Flats, beach cleanups and ski trips at the South Bay Ski Club's cabin. She requested the Flipper Dippers spread her ashes in the same area Bill's were in Monterey Bay, in 2016. The memorial and gathering is pending. 🌊

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



Follow and Like Us
on Facebook!



FIRST CLASS MAIL

2022 COMING EVENTS

Mar 02	Business Meeting
Mar 12	Second Saturday SCUBA - Beach Dive
Mar 16	👉 General Meeting
Mar 16	Lobster Season Closes
Mar 27	Fourth Sunday Cycle (FSC)
Apr 1	Pt. Lobos Reservations for May 14
Apr 05-16	Bonaire Dive Trips
Apr 06	Business Meeting
Apr 09	Second Saturday SCUBA
Apr 20	👉 General Meeting - SJFD 58 Years Old!
Apr 23	U/W Easter Egg Hunt
Apr 24	Fourth Sunday Cycle (FSC)
May 1	👉 Pt. Lobos Reservations for May 14
May 05-16	Bonaire Dive Trips
May 06	Business Meeting
May 09	Second Saturday SCUBA
May 20	👉 General Meeting - SJFD 58 Years Old
May 23	U/W Easter Egg Hunt
May 24	Fourth Sunday Cycle (FSC)

*Are you looking for
someone to dive with?*

The Flipper Dippers will be holding their 13th Annual Underwater Easter Egg Hunt, at Del Monte Beach, on April 23. Watch for more information next month! 🌟



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



WWW.SJFLIPPERDIPPERS.COM