



San Jose Flipper Dippers

SEPTEMBER
2022

GENERAL MEETINGS HELD
3RD WEDNESDAY
OF EACH MONTH
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Pt. Lobos Dive Report

Barbara Davis

At the July General Meeting, Dipper **Barbara Davis** and prospective members **Taylor Sullivan** and **Tristan Chutka** got together to plan a dive for Sunday, July 24th. We discovered that there were 2 reservations available at Point Lobos that day, so we grabbed them! Dipper **Carri Edgar** rounded out our 2 dive teams.

Whaler's cove was flat calm when we entered the water and made our way out through the abundant surface kelp. We descended to about 20 feet and navigated through the sand channel to dive along middle reef. While the water was mostly green and murky, viz did open up to 20-30 feet farther out. We observed plenty of different types of nudibranchs and sea cucumbers, and the usual varieties of anemones, feather duster worms, orange puffball sponges and a variety of rockfish. Max depth was about 60 feet during our 59 minute dive. Water temp was about 50 degrees.

It was pretty cool and overcast during the surface interval, but Barbara had brought some hot water we used to warm up our wetsuits! Carri was cold and decided to skip the second dive. Taylor also had some issues with her drysuit not venting well, so she also decided against a second dive. Barbara and Tristan decided to investigate the rocks on the west side of the sand channel for the second dive. Unfortunately, we encountered barren rocks and a huge number of little purple sea urchins, so a quick turn to the east brought us back to middle reef for another nice dive. Tristan was getting cold, so we decided to make a rapid return swim back to the boat ramp at the end of the dive.

After our dives we decided to skip Crossroads BBQ and try another restaurant. We ended up at r.g. Burgers in the same shopping center. Taylor and Tristan gave 2 thumbs up to the milkshakes and we all enjoyed great burgers and fries. You should have been there! *



North Monastery Beach Dive Moves South

From Left: Tristan, Mike, Carl, Kilroy (Tom), Cedric, Barbara, Andrew, Grace and Nastassia.

The August 13th S3 dive at North Monastery Beach brought together a whole bunch of Dippers and friends. Mother Nature was not so kind to the North end of Monastery beach so the group decided to move to South Monastery.

Joining in on the day were **Grace Chi**, **Mike Gladden**, **Andrew Grice**, **Barbara Davis**, **Carl Tuttle**, **Tom** and **Jackie Gardner**, and **Cedric Wright**. Prospective members included **Nastassia Michael**, **Tristan Chutka** and **Andrew Grice**. Tristan was having sinus issues so decided not to dive, but he did lend some helping hands as the divers came out of the water after the first dive.

And he came to the rescue! Nastassia discovered she forgot to pack her fins and Tristan loaned her his so she could do the first dive. Well done! He later donned his wetsuit and did some snorkeling while some divers made a second dive.

Visibility was from 10-30 feet, depending how deep the divers got. During the first and second dives a couple of harbor seals swam around the divers. Cedric was able to capture one of them with his GoPro camera as the seal played hide-and-seek. Big Fun!

After the dives most folks headed to the Crossroads shopping center, in Carmel, for lunch and reports on

their observations during the dives.

See more of Jackie's photos on page 4. *

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Greetings Divers!

First, a big welcome to our latest new members voted into the Club: **Taylor Sullivan** and **Tristan Chutka**!

I want to remind and encourage everyone to stay informed about the organizations that protect and manage our marine resources. We're all familiar with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (www.wildlife.ca.gov/), but how is that different from the Fish and Game Commission (<https://fgc.ca.gov/About>)? Did you know that big changes are coming to sport groundfish regulations in 2023 (wildlife.ca.gov/News/big-changes-to-sport-groundfish-regulations-coming-in-2023)? Check this out if you plan on sport fishing in 2023.

Closer to home, check out the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS) website (montereybay.noaa.gov/). The MBNMS Advisory Council was established by Federal law to assure continued public participation in the management of the Sanctuary. Since its establishment in March 1994, the Advisory Council has played a vital role in the decisions affecting the Sanctuary along the central California Coast. Our diver representatives are Brian Nelson and Keith Rootsart.

Are you signed up to receive the monthly Sanctuary Diver Newsletter email? If not, sign up here (copy and paste the link into your Web browser):
https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/hxLWIK6?source_id=82f64b69-9922-4aee-9fd8-9dea35b7a206&source_type=em&c=Nm5uccoZaOd3on377BB2-Ly9qp9xbSK1kblWpXY3W-MYjxDTWR1rKg==

If you have some free time, get involved!

Let's go diving!

— Barbara

Flipper Dipper comes to the rescue!

Former Flipper Dippers member **Dave Rodarte** contacted **Carl Tuttle** asking if anyone in the Club would be interested in helping out with an underwater repair project located in the Almaden area. Apparently someone needed a safety cover placed over a swimming pool drain. A pool company wanted to drain the swimming pool to do the work. As we all know California is dealing with a water shortage, so this wasn't an option for the pool owner. During the July Monastery Beach dive Carl asked if anyone was willing to take on this project. **Ken Agur** offered as the location was near his home. Ken was able to get in touch with Dave and the project was successfully completed. The owner wanted to pay Ken for his services but Ken wouldn't accept. Well Done! ⭐

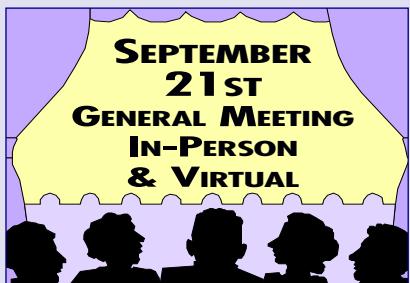


San Jose Flipper Dippers

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	AWARDS AND FINES	o Position Open o	
	MEMBERSHIP	Ken Agur	408-242-3779
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	email	tutcomms@sbcglobal.net	

C L U B C O M M I T T E E S	PHOTOGRAPHY	Mike Chalup	408-744-1868
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	STAR ACHIEVEMENT	Jackie Gardner	408-274-9447
	TROPHY COMPETITION	John Snyder	408-378-4963



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. ★

RAFFLE NEWS

Our in-person general meetings are still lightly attended so we're holding off on our monthly raffles. We're hoping we can all get together this December for our Annual Christmas Raffle, so stay tuned! ★

MEMBERSHIP

Ken Agur

Welcome to our newest members **Taylor Sullivan** and **Tristan Chutka** who were voted in at the August General Meeting! At the Van Damme campout and dive, Barbara Davis was able to present the Club's patch to new

members **Carri Edger** and **Frances Lee**. Oops! There was only one patch available. Carri took the patch and another one will be mailed to Frances.

Happy birthday! If we had a regular General Meeting, a FREE raffle ticket would be given to **Abby Golden Wilson**. Instead a celebration was held at Van Damme during the Club's camping/diving event Labor Day weekend. Still waiting for birthday months for **Grace Chi**, **Howard Chien** and **Sergei Kuznetcov**. But maybe they don't want anyone to notice? ★



Fight over Dippers' Club Jacket Patch!

During the Van Damme Labor Day Weekend, **Barbara Davis**, below center, holds on to the Club's jacket patch as **Carri Edger**, left, and **Frances Lee** each grab ahold to see who gets to keep it. Carri was voted into the club before Frances so she took the patch and Frances will have one sent to her.

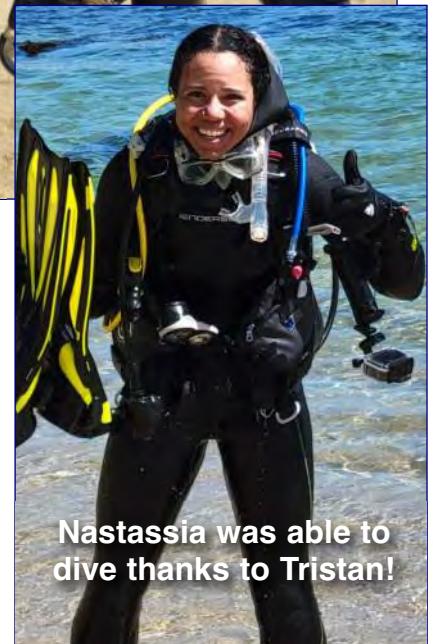
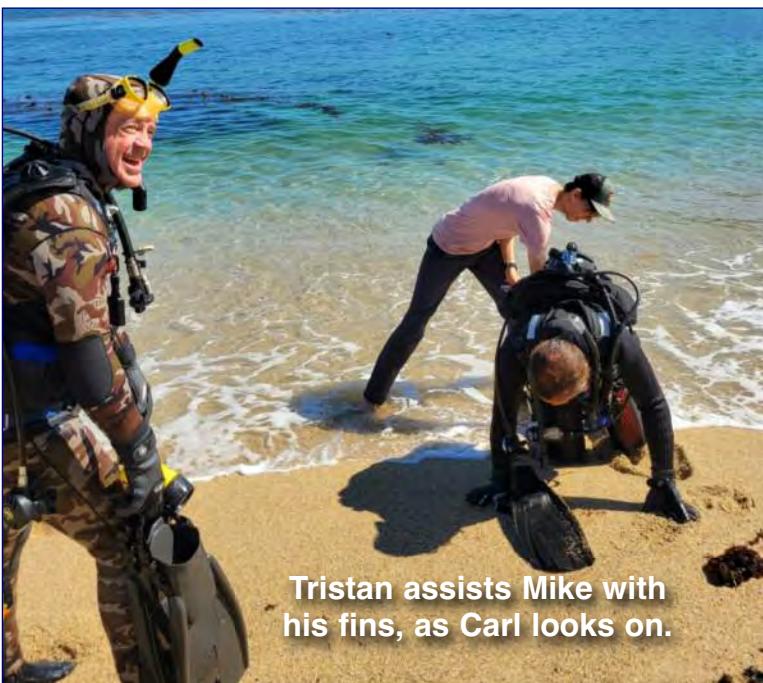
There was no fighting over Club patches at the August General Meeting when **Ken Agur**, right center, handed **Tristan Chutka**, left, and **Taylor Sullivan** their jacket patches after being voted into the Club. Welcome to all! ★



Can't you read the sign?

For a bike ride during Van Damme Labor Day Weekend **Howard Chien** and **Frances Lee** try to figure out where the bike path along Big River in Mendocino begins. See page 7 for the answer. We'll have a report and more photos from the Van Damme event in next month's newsletter. ★

August S3 Dive Photos by Jackie Gardner



August 12 – A Beautiful Day in Monterey Diving on the Beach Hopper II

Mike Chalup

On Friday, August 12, Dippers **Barbara Davis**, **Tom Gardener** and **Mike Chalup** exercised their prerogative as LORDs (Loyal Order of Retired Dippers) to go for a weekday boat dive on the Beach Hopper II. We didn't go far, but it was quality and not distance traveled that made the day exceptional.

The first dive site was Metridium Mountain (off the Monterey Bay Aquarium). Initial impressions were not promising, with a 'pea-soup' algal bloom at the surface. However, once descending a few feet, there was a distinct thermocline (52 Deg. F) and visibility opened up to 40-50 foot plus with absolutely zero surge. The 'Mountain' was a large rock formation, with fingers of smaller boulders projecting outward. The panorama of the divers swimming

around the rock in very clear water was quite stunning. Barbara and Tom found many different critters, including a nudibranch which they described as looking like it had liquid chocolate drizzled on top (Chocolate Aeolid - *Cuthonella cocoachroma*?)

The second dive was at a nearby site that Captain MaryJo

called VTS3 (which may better be described as slightly to the west of Outer Macabee). Along with kelp forest, the attraction



here were the abandoned pipelines that were used to transfer sardines from fishing boats to the onshore canneries. Many rock cod were present, nicely framed in the broken ends of the pipe for good photo composition. Mike didn't go far under-

water – a few pipes provided plenty of photographic subjects for a 55 minute bottom time dive.

After returning to the dock, we were joined by **Jackie Gardener** for lunch at the London Bridge Pub. Adding the beautiful sunny weather in Monterey, a great day of diving was had by all – 'you should have been there!' ⚡

PICT BY ANDREWS McMEEL SYNDICATION



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PUBLIC EAVESDROPPING By Leah Garchik

"He's so good he knows the sharks by name."

Bartender at Phoenix Hotel in San Francisco describing a Bolinas surfer, overheard by Stephen Vincent



New Marine Sanctuaries Forever Stamps

The U.S. Postal Service celebrates the nation's underwater treasures with the release of the National Marine Sanctuaries stamps. For 50 years, U.S. national marine sanctuaries and marine national monuments have protected areas with special ecological, cultural and historical significance.

California sea lions, a sand tiger shark and the Farallon Islands are just a few examples of the abundant wildlife and diverse ecosystems that can be found throughout the National Marine Sanctuary System. The U.S. Postal Service celebrates these important treasures in the upcoming Marine Sanctuaries Forever stamps.

Art director Greg Breeding designed the pane using existing photographs. A map of the National Marine Sanctuary System illustrated by Todd M. Detwiler is printed on the back of the pane. The 16 new Forever stamps showcase the abundant wildlife and diverse ecosystems that can be found throughout the National Marine Sanctuary System.

The stamps include photographs taken by Daryl Duda, Michael Durham, Mark Sullivan, Peter Turcik, Norbert Wu, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration employees Wendy Cover, Jeff Harris, Elliott Hazen, Joseph Hoyt, Ed Lyman, Greg McFall, Matt McIntosh, G. P. Schmahl and Kate Thompson.



Preorders for the Marine Sanctuaries Forever stamps can be made online at usps.com/stamps beginning July 5.

Customers may purchase stamps

and other philatelic products through the Postal Store at usps.com/shop-stamps, by calling 844-737-7826, by mail through USA Philatelic or at Post Office locations nationwide. ⚡

Carry a Surface Marker of Some Sort

It seems that more divers get separated and lost from their boat when they are on the surface than when they



are underwater. A long safety sausage that can be inflated and sent to the surface on a line even while you are making your safety stop will allow your boat driver to anticipate where you will surface. Should you become stranded in the dark, a fully charged diver's flashlight beam will tell people where you are. Both are essential items for your safety. Always carry both no matter how benign you think the conditions may be. ⚡

The Noise of Your Boat Disturbs the Fish

Coral reef fish breed more successfully if motorboat noise is reduced, according to a study published in Nature Communications. Near Lizard Island Research Station on Australia's Great Barrier Reef, researchers from the universi-

ties of Exeter and Bristol monitored three reefs with normal boat traffic and three where the traffic was calmed (e.g., slowed down and controlled). During a summer breeding season, the researchers swam every other day to monitor 86 spiny chromis broods. Of 46 nests on reefs where traffic had been calmed, 30 still contained offspring at the end of the breeding season. Only 16 out of 40 still contained offspring on the reefs with no traffic control. However, the researchers stress that limiting boat traffic alone is insufficient to protect coral reefs completely. ⚡

Florida Dive Center Owners Finally Convicted.

The British owners of the now-defunct Key Largo Scuba Shack, Alison Gracey and Christopher Jones, who evaded arrest after a diver died when their boat, Get Wet, sank at Molasses Reef (Undercurrent January 2012), were extradited to the U.S. from Spain, where they were hiding. In April, they each face up to eight years in jail for involuntary manslaughter. A criminal investigation revealed that Jones and Gracey knew before the tragedy that their vessel needed repairs, but they continued operating Get Wet. The couple were first located by authorities in St. Maarten, but escaped back to Europe, where they hid in various countries until Spanish police caught them after an Interpol 'Most Wanted' notice. ⚡

DIVE & ACTIVITY CALENDAR

TOM GARDNER

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SEPTEMBER 2022

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3 NO LICENSE FISHING DAY

AUG 29 – SEPT 5 LABOR DAY WEEKEND AT VAN DAMME

Dippers are camping and diving at Van Damme State Park from Mon, Aug 29, through Sun, Sept 5.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 BUSINESS MEETING

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 SEPTEMBER 10 SECOND SATURDAY SCUBA (S3) BEACH DIVE: LOCATION TBD

Coordinator TBD: Watch your email for an announcement. Plan to meet at 8:00 AM for a 2-tank dive. The dive site will be chosen based on surface conditions and the comfort and skill level of the attending divers.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 INTERNATIONAL COASTAL CLEANUP DAY

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 17 NO SCHEDULED DIVE

GENERAL MEETING WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 21

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 58 Years of the San Jose Flipper Dippers!

**Entertainment:
A Social Hour**



SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 24 NO SCHEDULED DIVE

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 25 FOURTH SUNDAY CYCLE

Join us for our monthly Fourth Sunday Cycle led by **Jim Rezowalli**. Remember to bring your bike and 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 OCTOBER

- | | |
|----|---------------------------|
| 05 | Lobster Season Opens |
| 05 | Business Meeting |
| 08 | Second Saturday SCUBA |
| 19 | General Meeting |
| 23 | Fourth Sunday Cycle (FSC) |



Ghost Fishing Nets Recovered

At San Pedro, California, in early May, six volunteer divers from Ghost Diving USA teamed up with non-profit Healthy Seas to recover 300 pounds of abandoned fishing nets from 150 feet deep that had become draped over the wreck of the USS Moody, sunk in 1933 for a prop for the movie "Hell Below." The name "ghost fishing" is because fishing nets that are made to appear invisible underwater are trapping and killing all manner of marine animals including turtles, fish, mammals and birds that get entangled, suffer and eventually die. ⚡



What sign? (From page 3)

There was something on that sign regarding E-Bikes that they missed as Frances rode her bike Howard had converted for the ride. Oops! ⚡

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 cancelation or changes.



San Jose Flipper Dippers

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



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FIRST CLASS MAIL

2022 COMING EVENTS

Sept 03	No License Fishing Day
Sept 07	Business Meeting
Sept 10	Second Saturday SCUBA
Sept 17	International Coastal Cleanup Day
Sept 21	General Meeting
Sept 25	Fourth Sunday Cycle (FSC)
Oct 05	Lobster Season Opens
Oct 05	Business Meeting
Oct 08	Second Saturday SCUBA
Oct 19	General Meeting
Oct 23	Fourth Sunday Cycle (FSC)
Nov 01	Pt. Lobos Reservations for Dec 28
Nov 02	Business Meeting
Nov 12	Second Saturday SCUBA
Nov 16	General Meeting – Nominations for 2023 Office
Nov 19	Wine Tasting & Picnic
Nov 22	Memorial Day Weekend Reservations Big Sur (May 22-28, 2023)
Nov 27	Fourth Sunday Cycle (FSC)

*Are you looking for someone
to dive with?*

The San Jose
Flipper
Dippers Dive
Club is a great
way to meet
divers who are
always having
fun times.

Come join us!



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



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