

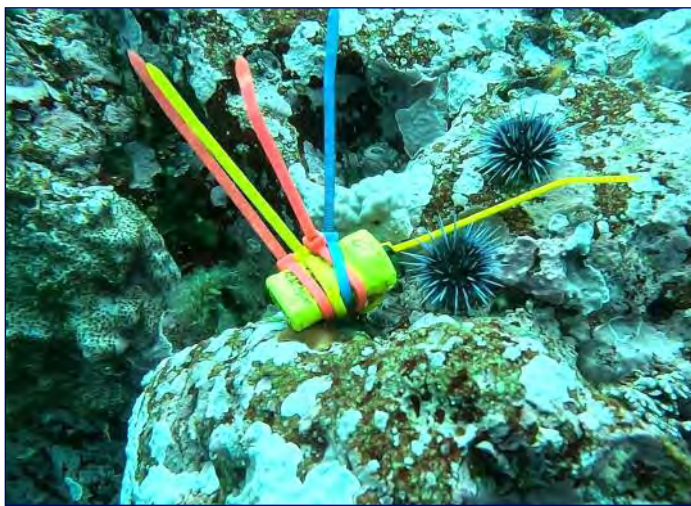
NEWSLETTER



San Jose Flipper Dippers

AUGUST
2024

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



Have you seen one of these?

If you dive enough in the Monterey Bay area you might have come across a strange looking object under the water with a bunch of colored cable ties attached to it.

So what exactly is it? And who put it there?

It's actually a logging device for data recording of the water temperature and salinity and they are placed in many areas by the folks with Reef Check. This one was placed during the June survey of Point Lobos by Reef Check volunteers. But this is not the only one as Reef Check also has these little monitors at over 75 sites along the California coast from San Diego to Humboldt county.

The device is designed to record data for the scientific community about changes in ocean conditions that might be affected by global warming. Like canaries in a coal mine, these match box-size 'songbirds' are part of the Coastal Canary Project, and are attached with a stainless steel bolt into a rocky reef, at about 40-ft deep, and monitor the water temperature fluctuations every ten minutes.

Reef Check divers use GPS and map out an area to determine where the logger is placed. Then annually, the loggers are found by Reef Check divers and replaced with new ones.

So if you come across one feel free to look closely at it and take a photo of it, but please don't mess with these little 'songbirds.' For more information on Reef Check and what research the group is doing and volunteer opportunities, visit their website www.reefcheck.org

Someone got a lucky pick off the Christmas Tree!

The Flipper Dippers' own **Carl Tuttle** picked the envelope containing \$50 cash off the tree during the raffle at the Christmas in July BBQ and picnic on July 28. How lucky can that guy get as it was also his birthday! We need to ask him if he plays the lottery. See more photos from the day on pages 4 & 5.



Feeling a little blue, are you?

Blue Maine lobsters are a rare sight, occurring in about 1 in 2 million lobsters due to a genetic mutation that causes an excess of a particular protein. These vibrant crustaceans capture attention with their striking blue shells, which stand out from the usual greenish-brown of typical lobsters. Despite their unusual color, they are safe to eat and taste just like their more common counterparts. Protecting these rare lobsters is crucial, as they highlight the incredible diversity of marine life found off the coast of Maine. This blue lobster was caught near Portland, Maine and was released after a few photos.



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PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Greetings Divers!

Let's start out with a big THANK YOU to **Abby Golden Wilson** for organizing the amazing Christmas in July picnic on July 28th! Great food, great friends and a fun raffle. It was a tremendously fun event and everyone who attended reported having a great time! Can't wait to do it again next year.

I'm also happy to extend a big welcome to our newest member, **Eva Alexander**, who was voted in at the July General meeting. Welcome, Eva!

We have a lot of great events coming up in August, including the S3 dive on August 10th, Lake Tahoe weekend August 15th – 18th, and the beginning of our Labor Day weekend campout on August 26th. We've reserved several campsites for this getaway and have plenty of room to share! Check out the Dive and Activity Calendar in this newsletter for more information.

As I mentioned at the July General Meeting, I've been hearing a lot from Dippers interested in returning to **Bonaire** for a dive trip in 2025. So the planning has begun. I sent out an email asking for your input on preferred dates and choice of either a 7 or a 10-day trip. As in the past, we're looking into staying at Buddy Dive where the package includes 6-person condos, a rental truck, drive-thru for tanks and airport transportation. So if you're interested in going, be sure to get back to me ASAP! **See the information below for date options and estimated pricing.** And a big THANK YOU! to **Mike Chalup** for his amazingly detailed planning from our 2023 trip.

Stay Safe Everyone and let's go diving! – Barbara

2025 Flipper Dippers Dive Adventure to Bonaire: 7 or 10 Days

Buddy Dive Resort Packages Includes:

- Transfers from airport to resort and return
- 3-Bedroom condo apartment with kitchen
- Pickup truck(s) with manual transmission, CDW insurance, unlimited mileage
- Unlimited shore diving
- Tanks, weights, belts, FREE Nitrox
- Wifi and housekeeping
- Local sales taxes

Below are the dates we are considering, along with approximate costs. In the past, some folks arrived in Miami and stayed the night before the Saturday flight to Bonaire. Some take a "Red Eye" and arrive Saturday morning. Airline prices is estimated with departure from SFO. Everyone makes their own flight reservations.

7 Days (Fri – Sat)	Resort Fee	Airfare	Total
April 25 – May 3	\$910	\$688	\$1598
May 2 – 10	\$910	\$844	\$1754
May 30 – June 7	\$910	\$823	\$1733
June 20 – 28	\$910	Pricing TBD	Pricing TBD

10 Days (Fri – Wed)	Resort Fee	Airfare	Total
April 25 – May 7	\$1434	\$723	\$2157
May 2 – 14	\$1434	\$723	\$2157
May 30 – June 11	\$1434	\$697	\$2131
June 20 – July 2	\$1434	Pricing TBD	Pricing TBD

Notes:

- Airfare checked online 7/26/24 and is subject to change.
- Room rates assume use of 3-bedroom, 6-person apartments. If less than 6 people per apartment, the cost will be higher (TBD).
- Pricing does not include 1 night accommodations in Miami, food, optional boat dives, or Marine Park Fee (\$40).

Contact Barbara Davis with your preferred trip dates: bjdscuba123@gmail.com



San Jose Flipper Dippers

www.SJFlipperDippers.com

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CLUB OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Barbara Davis 408-656-6390

VICE PRESIDENT

Sim Upadhyayula 669-286-9796

SECRETARY

Grace Chi 858-337-2674

TREASURER

Tom 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

o Position Open o

REFRESHMENTS

o Position Open o

STAR ACHIEVEMENT

Jackie Gardner 408-274-9447

TROPHY COMPETITION

John Snyder 408-378-4963

MEMBERSHIP

Ken Agur

Welcome *Eva Alexander* who was voted into the Club at the July General Meeting. Eva, at far right with Ken, is eager to dive and has been on nearly every dive with the Club over the past number of months.

Not only did Eva get voted into the Club in July but she was a big winner at the Christmas in July picnic and this month is her birthday too! **Happy Birthday Eva!** 🌟



**AUGUST
21ST
GENERAL MEETING
IN-PERSON
& VIRTUAL**



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

“Have you ever needed your dive knife to cut your way out of kelp?”

This question was asked of *Carl Tuttle* by prospective club member *Tom Earl* at the July 13th S3 dive at MacAbee beach. Carl answered the question, “Nope. But I have used it to cut fishing line!” Tom then decided he'd continue bringing his dive knife for the second dive.

The July S3 dive was a good one you missed. Joining in on the dive, in addition to Carl and Tom, were *Howard Timoney, Dono Hill, Barbara Davis, Grace Chi, Eva*

Alexander and *Sim Upadhyayula*. The group did two dives out to the large rock formation with minimum surge and 15-25-foot visibility. Lots of life around the rock formation that everyone enjoyed seeing.

During the second dive both Barbara and Carl found fishing hooks with line attached. Barbara wrapped about 15-20 feet of fishing line around the lure she picked up. Well done Dippers!

After the dive the group dropped off tanks at Aquarius Dive Shop and had lunch at Taqueria Zarape, in Seaside, while the tanks were being filled. 🌟



Happy Dippers Dive MacAbee:

In photo from far left: Howard, Dono, Barbara, Grace, Tom, Eva and Sim.



Hey Carl, don't forget the 'Selfie' photo! OK. Wait! It looks like Howard and Dono are suffering DCS!

Top, the hook and weight Carl found and the lure Barbra found with 15-20 feet of line she wrapped around it during the dive.

Christmas in July Family Picnic and 4th Sunday Cycle

Dippers and friends got together for a great time for this event. **BIG THANKS!** to **Abby Golden Wilson** for pulling this together. Food was great and lots of excitement during the raffle too! Thanks also to **Jackie Gardner** for selling the raffle tickets and **Greg Davis** for the great BBQ cooking. 🌟



Tom Gardner scored the \$20 off the Christmas Tree!



Abby Golden Wilson made the day a great success!



Ken Agur found the \$30 envelope on the Christmas Tree!



From left, Grace Chi, Jim Rezowalli, Carl Tuttle and Kyle Sanner enjoy the great food.



From left, Tom Earl, Jorge De Luna, Abby Golden Wilson and Ken Agur.



From left, Tristan Chutka, Eva Alexander, Ann and Howard Timoney, and Barbara Davis.



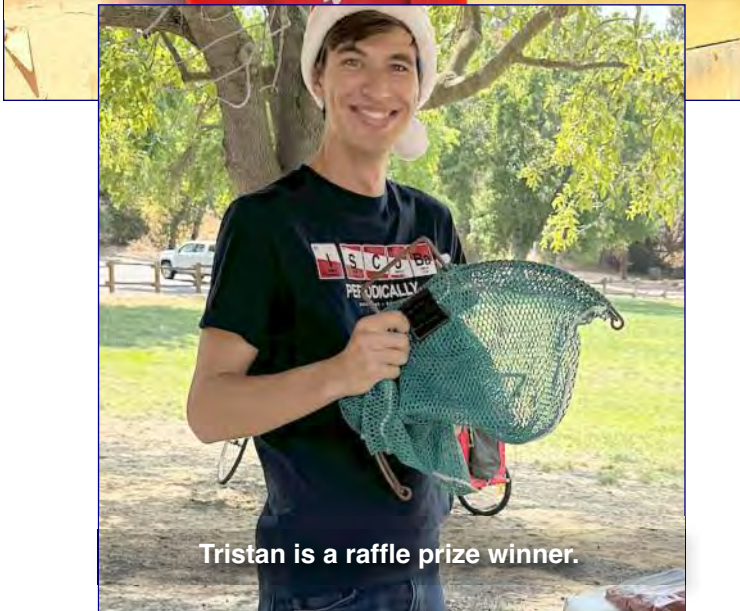
From left, Ophelia and Kelly Drake, Tom Gardner and Howard Chien.



Master chef Ben 'Mr. Abby' Wilson at work.



Ken and Eva are raffle winners – two!



Tristan is a raffle prize winner.



Kyle thinks this is fun!



Barbara thought she won something completely different.



Jeff Rowland scored the DUI weight belt.



Greg thinks he's supervising the BBQ as Ben spices the salmon.

Flying After Diving

From DAN

When planning your dive travels, remember DAN's recommended preflight surface intervals: at least 12 hours after a single no-decompression dive; at least 18 hours after multiple dives or consecutive days of diving.

When flying after diving, the ascent to altitude increases the risk of decompression sickness (DCS) because of the additional reduction in atmospheric pressure. The higher the altitude, the greater the risk.

Cruising cabin pressure in commercial aircraft is usually maintained at a constant value regardless of the actual altitude of the flight. The equivalent effective cabin altitude generally ranges from 6,000 to 8,000 feet, though it varies somewhat with aircraft type. The maximum value is 8,000

feet, which equates to about 0.75 atmospheres absolute (ATA).

Dives Within No-Decompression Limits:

For a single no-decompression dive, the recommendation is a minimum preflight surface interval of 12 hours.

For multiple dives per day or multiple days of diving,

the recommendation is a minimum preflight surface interval of 18 hours. Many agencies recommend a 24-hour minimum interval after

HOW LONG SHOULD YOU WAIT? SUGGESTED MINIMUM SURFACE INTERVALS

 Single day no-deco dive 12+ hours	 Multi-day or repetitive no-deco dives 18+ hours	 Mandatory deco dive 24+ hours
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Longer surface intervals further reduce DCS risk

These guidelines apply to divers who have no symptoms of decompression sickness (DCS) and will be flying at cabin altitudes of 2,000-8,000 ft (610 to 2,438 meters)

multi-day diving.

Dives Requiring Decompression Stops:

There is little experimental or published evidence on which to base a recommendation for decompression dives. A preflight surface interval substantially longer than 24 hours appears prudent. ★

'Ghost Ship' Washes Up in Florida After Floating Alone for Weeks

Jan Wesner Childs, *Weather Channel*

A 45-foot "mystery ship" washed ashore in the Florida Panhandle Tuesday as Tropical Storm Alberto swirled in the Gulf of Mexico. The *Lady Catherine III* was battered with no one on board when she made landfall in Pensacola Beach.



Photographers took eerie nighttime shots of her and posted them online. Quickly, a connection was made. The boat belonged to Michael Barlow from Rockport, Texas.

"I bought a beautiful boat and we were going to take off sailing after hurricane season," Barlow told weather.com Wednesday. "That was our mission." He, his wife and 9-year-old son were due to set sail to Honduras and, from there, who knows. Barlow bought the boat in Florida and enlisted a friend to help bring it across the Gulf of Mexico to Texas. They left Key West in great weather. "And I was just like, this is a dream come true," Barlow said. "It's just perfect."

Then the storms hit, as did a series of other issues. "On that third day, our head sail shredded and later on that night we lost the motor," Barlow said. "And, yeah, we were in a bad situation." That was June 1.

They'd already been in contact with the Coast Guard, but Barlow was hesitant to abandon ship and leave the

Lady Catherine alone. "You know, anything but that. But as I sat there ... my crew man, he was out, he was just exhausted," Barlow said. Their main sail was shredded, the motor was out and instruments were failing. "I'm looking at the waves ... And I was like, one of these is going to roll us," Barlow said.

They were 193 miles south of Panama City, Florida. It would take three hours for a rescue helicopter to reach them. The Coast Guard told him they had an open window for the weather, and it was now or never. "We can go back to work and get another boat," Barlow said. "We can't replace us."

A Coast Guard C-130 aircraft from Clearwater, Florida, circled above until a helicopter arrived from Coast Guard Air Station New Orleans. Video from the scene shows a rescue swimmer drop into the water and climb onto the *Lady Catherine*. The two men on board were hoisted into the helicopter. "The weather at the time of rescue was severe," Coast Guard Petty Officer 3rd Class Jaiden Hartley said in an email. "The owner communicated a fear of capsizing and losing the mast."



The *Lady Catherine* drifted in the Gulf alone. Barlow received updates and coordinates from occasional sightings, but he had no way to reach his boat. Then, 17 days later, her ghostly remains showed up in Florida. Barlow arrived in Pensacola Beach Thursday, after weather cleared from Tropical Storm Alberto. He hopes to rescue the *Lady Catherine* and fulfill his family's dream of sailing the world. ★

DIVE & ACTIVITY CALENDAR

SIM UPADHYAYULA

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AUGUST 2024

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 3
NO SCHEDULED DIVE**

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7

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 AUGUST 10

**SECOND SATURDAY SCUBA (S3)
BEACH DIVE: LOCATION TBD**

Join the Flipper Dippers for this month's S3 dive coordinated by **Sim Upadhyayula**. Text: 669 286 9796 or email: toytacous@yahoo.com if interested and to be notified of developments.

FRI-SUN, AUG 15 - 18 WEEKEND

AT LAKE TAHOE Coordinator:

Jim Rezowalli. Come join us for a three-day weekend at the Apres Lodge in Kings Beach on the North Shore of Lake Tahoe. Cost:

\$39/night per person paid a week before the event (Non-refundable). See the July newsletter for more information. Please RSVP via

GENERAL MEETING WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 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 60 Years of the
San Jose Flipper Dippers!**

Entertainment:

- **Social Hour**
- **Dive Plans and More**



email: jimandthebeach@gmail.com, phone: 408-293-7390 to receive final details and any last minute updates.

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 24
NO SCHEDULED DIVE**

**AUG 26 - SEPT 1 LABOR DAY
WEEKEND AT VAN DAMME**

Dippers have campsite reservations at Van Damme State Park from Monday, Aug 26, through Sunday, Sept 1. Space is available to share. Contact **Carl Tuttle** (tutcomms@sbcglobal.net) if you would like to join in. See July newsletter for info.

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 31
NO LICENSE FISHING DAY**

UPCOMING IN SEPTEMBER

- 7 Business Meeting
- 12 Second Saturday SCUBA
- 16 General Meeting**
- 27 Fourth Sunday Cycle (FSC)



Swim Calls

Navy sailors are allowed to swim in the ocean during designated events known as "swim calls." These events are a tradition where sailors can jump from the deck of their ship into the open ocean for relaxation and morale-boosting. Swim calls often occur during long deployments when the ship is in calm and safe waters. Sharpshooters and rescue boats are on standby to ensure the safety of the sailors, watching for sharks and preventing anyone from drifting too far from the ship.

The practice dates back to at least World War II and is still enjoyed by sailors today, offering a unique and memorable break from the rigors of naval service. Ships across the U.S. Navy fleet, including aircraft carriers and submarines, participate in these swim calls, providing sailors with a refreshing and enjoyable experience ★



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

2024 COMING EVENTS

Aug 07	Business Meeting
Aug 10	Second Saturday SCUBA (S3)
Aug 15-18	Lake Tahoe Weekend
Aug 21	👉 General Meeting
Aug 26-Sept 01	Labor Day Weekend - Van Damme
Aug 31	No License Fishing Day
Sept 04	Business Meeting
Sept 14	Second Saturday SCUBA
Sept 18	👉 General Meeting
Sept 21	Calif & Intl Coastal Cleanup Day
Sept 29	Fourth Sunday Cycle (FSC)
Oct 02	Business Meeting
Oct 12	Second Saturday SCUBA
Oct 16	👉 General Meeting
Oct 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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