



Laguna Sea Dwellers

The Orange County Dive Club

January 2009

January Photo Winner



Details on pg. 2

Andy Sallmon
Sharks
January 21, 2009

President's Message

What's Up for LSD in 2009

Happy New Year! I hope you and your family had a wonderful holiday season! Thanks to Tom Gorman and the 2008 board for putting on a really great holiday party in December...capping a successful year of meetings and events. I am looking forward to a really fun 2009 for Laguna Sea Dwellers and want to thank the club members for supporting me and the new board!

Planning is underway for a variety of dive and non-dive related activities over the next several months. We also have many of the speakers lined up for our club meetings thanks to the help of Tom Gorman, Julianne Steers, Sherri Cubillos and Joe Laskowski. We will be hearing from such diving notables as Andy Sallmon, Linda Blanchard, Dr. Bill Bushing, Grady Scallon, Sharks International, Underwater IMAX Filmmakers, and a very special nationally-renowned guest in May. We will also pepper some of the meetings with member presentations. If you would like



Cont'd on pg. 3

Upcoming Events

January 2nd

Club Mixer at Mozambique in Laguna Beach. 5:30pm.

January 10th

Open boat to Catalina on the Sundiver. Call 1-800-555-9446 for reservations. 7:00am

January 21st

Club meeting at Newport Beach Tennis Club. 6:30pm.

January 24th

Gray whale watching on the R/V Sea Explorer. 9:00am.

February 6th

Club Mixer at Gulf Stream in Newport Beach. 5:30pm.

February 18th

Club meeting at Newport Beach Tennis Club. 6:30pm.

February 20th-22nd

Mammoth Ski trip. See pg. 3.

See calendar on page 4 for more events!

Inside this issue...

2009 Photo Contest	2
Mammoth Ski Trip	3
New Members	3
Birthdays	3
Diving Milestones	4
Whale Watching	4
Calendar of Events	4
Laura's Back! (as VP)	5
2009 Boat Dives	6
Dive Travel	6
LSD Joins Facebook	6
Holiday Party Highlights	7
Board Member Info	8

January 2009 Photo Contest—Shells

And the winner is ... **Julianne Steers**

Twenty-one photos were submitted for January's contest. Seven of twelve eligible board members cast votes by assigning a numerical score of 3 to their first choice, a 2 to their second choice and a 1 to their third choice.

Julianne's photo garnered one first place vote, two second place votes and one third place vote for a total of 8 points. Glen Weierbach took second place with 6 points and a tie for 3rd with Glen and Ed Mickus each collecting 4 votes. Julianne is now the recipient of \$25 and a chance at winning a special grand prize at year-end. Congratulations!

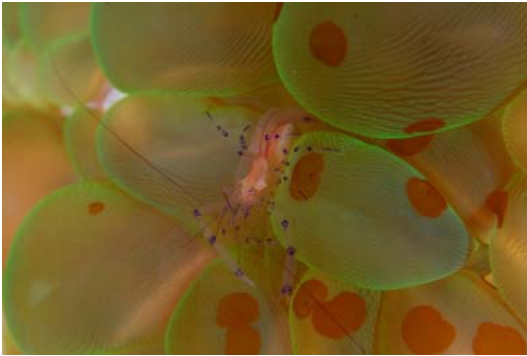
Now is the time to submit entries for February.

Remember, you can't win if you don't enter!

About the Photo

What: Rock Scallop
Where: Catalina
When: September 2008
Who: Julianne Steers
Depth: 60ft
Camera: Canon Powershot Pro1 w/YS90

2nd Place: Glen Weierbach

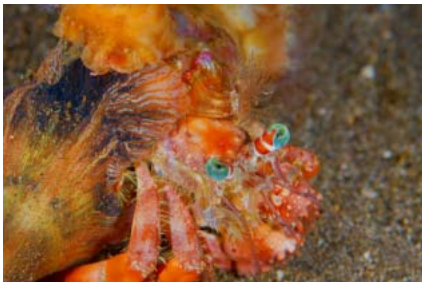


Tie for third!



Ed Mickus

Glen Weierbach



Looking Forward to February...

This month, it's all about the eels. No, I am not talking about the band (yep, there is a band called Eels). You are finning along a reef with fish swimming all around you when suddenly something makes you stop in your tracks. You see a sight that at once captivates you and implores you to fix your gaze on a head protruding from a hole, seemingly glaring out and opening and closing its jaws in an apparently menacing fashion. You have just spotted a moray eel!

You might ask why do these fish constantly open and close their mouth. Due to the small size of the gills, morays have to continuously open and close their mouths in a gaping fashion to maintain a flow of water and facilitate respiration. This is often mistaken as aggressive posturing by the unaware and is part of the reason for the moray eel's fearsome reputation.

The moray eel, characterized with a swaying serpent-head and teeth-filled jaw is most commonly seen with only its head appearing from behind rocks. Hiding in their crevices waiting until their prey is close enough, and then they launch themselves from the burrow and clasp the prey with their powerful jaws. At night, however, these eels leave their homes along the reef to hunt and scavenge for small fish, crustaceans, shrimp, and octopus. Their lightning fast strikes are devastatingly impressive, as diver that has seen a moray eel attack will verify. The preferred habitats of the Moray eel are salt-water areas along the coast, near coral reefs or kelp forests.



Cont'd on pg. 7

President's Message (Cont'd from pg. 1)

to share with the club some pictures, videos and commentary about a recent trip, let me know and we will get you on the dub meeting schedule. We also plan to run pictures and videos pre-meeting for you to enjoy while socializing – so let a board member know if you have something you would like to share.

Laura Bazeman, Tim Williams and I have been working on the club's local boat trip schedule for 2009, and we have a number of dates already secured. We will be going to many of the favorite locations – Farnsworth, San Clemente, Santa Barbara, Wreck Alley – and will be adding Anacapa again as well as Coronado Islands. Watch for trips on the Bottom Scratcher, Magician, Sundiver, Lois Ann, and the Peace. For overnight trips, we will use a "first-to-pay, first-to-choose-a-bunk" reservation policy - so it will pay to make your reservation early! Watch for our published schedule shortly – and you can also check the website for details.

We will continue to emphasize the Special Projects Committee (SPC) this year, and will charge it with working out the details of a variety of initiatives including recruiting and special events like the Ocean Institute Underwater Parks Day on January 17th, an Easter Egg Hunt in April, and perhaps a spot at the Long Beach Scuba Show in May. The SPC is also behind driving the dub's bi-weekly (or perhaps increasing to weekly) beach dives and periodic night dives through the sub-committee hopefully chaired by the likes of Bill Manrow and others that are regulars. The group currently has a core of about 8 people and another 6-8 who we tap periodically for their support and expertise. More volunteers are welcome...if you are looking for a way to get more involved, the SPC is a great place to join in. The SPC is not just for board members...any dub member can get involved. The group meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month in Laguna Hills and is chaired by Julianne Steers. Please contact Julianne or me if you want to participate.

Recruiting for new members is an ongoing priority. We have a number of tools in use and in the works. The board last year created a great brochure, and we now also have business cards and new banners compliments of Sherri Cubillos. JR Rafoth will drive the Ambassador program, and we will also be promoting membership to out-of-the-local area for people who are interested in LSD and diving with us when they travel to Southern California. Also watch for our involvement as a group on Facebook, more notices posted through Debbie Kaimoto's OC Diving News, and collaboration with other dubs and the shops that support us.

Lots of fun and interesting stuff planned! Your ideas and suggestions are always welcome, so come to the meetings, get involved, and let's dive! Hope to see you on the 21st for our first meeting of the year! Have a great 2009!

Cathy Solomon

Laguna Sea Dwellers Ski Trip to Mammoth

February 20-22, 2009

Only \$229!

Details:

\$50 deposits due now!

- We will leave early afternoon on the 20th via either a luxury bus or van (dependent on number of participants). Wine and cheese are included!
- Accommodations will be at a luxury condominium adjacent to the ski lift shuttle route. They are located close to the town's restaurants and entertainment.

Couples will have separate rooms.

- Skiing on the 21st and 22nd. Lift tickets and rentals are extra.
- Suggest group dinner at Whiskey Creek
- We'll return late afternoon for Orange County

Contact Ed Mickus @ edmickus1@aol.com to reserve your spot!

Purchase lift tickets and rent skis: www.mammothmountain.com



Laguna Sea Dwellers

Welcomes our newest members...



None. Everyone enjoying the holidays.
Happy New Year!

January Birthdays

Paul Stephens	2
Shane Goodridge	3
Ed Mickus	5
Richard Pascoe	6
Shannon Roys	6
Bob Evans	8
Brent Fairbanks	9
Cathy Kligman	10
Steve Underwood	11
Andrea Esty	13
Tyler Simpson	14
Anne Adams	19
Kathy Teulie	19
Yvette Patko	21
Maryrose	
Kakuschke	23
Mark Bogart	24
Jean-Yves Couleaud	26
Chris Benham	29
Skylar Mineshima	29



Calendar of Events

January 2009						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Mixer Mozambique	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 Catalina Sundiver
11	12	13	21 Dive Club Meeting NB Tennis Club 7:00pm And y Sallmon Sharks		16	17
18	19	20			23	24 Whale Watching
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

February 2009						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6 Mixer Gulf Stream	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 Dive Club Meeting NB Tennis Club 7:00pm Linda Blanchard Sex in the Sea!		20 Mammoth Ski Trip	21 Mammoth Dive/BBQ
22 Mammoth Ski Trip	23	24			27	28

Diving Milestones

None Reported

Laguna Sea Dwellers was formed to promote the sport of diving in our community. Congratulations to those reaching these important milestones! Have you reached an important milestone? If so, let us know @ lsd-news@cox.net.

The Gray Whales are Back!

\$28pp

January 24, 2009
9:00am—11:30am

Whale Watching Cruise

- Family and Friends welcome. Kids (min age: 4) love it!
- Everyone must sign a waiver.

Reservations: Contact Julianne Steers
(949) 360-4052 juliannesteers@earthlink.net

Ocean Institute
24200 Dana Point Harbor Drive, Dana Point





Laura's Back! (as VP)

Dear Members –

Wishing you, your family & friends a very happy & healthy New Year!

First I would like to say Thank You for giving me the opportunity to once again serve you on the Laguna Sea Dwellers board of directors. We are all very excited about the club and we hope that you enjoy all that we have in store for you this year.

As Cathy has mentioned in previous emails, we have been working on some new boat trips – new places as well as new boats so that we can provide some variety. But please, if you or anyone you know has ideas on where you'd like to go and on the boat you'd like to go on, let us know. We'll check it out and see what we can do. Just know that there are a lot of factors that go into (and have gone into) the boats that we choose. We are here for you... so tell us what you think and what you want and we'll definitely take it into consideration. We did send out a survey a few weeks back regarding boat dives so I hope that you took that awesome opportunity to tell us what you think.

I'm still in the process of figuring out what my column will focus on this coming year. Since I don't go on all of the boat dives, (I know...but I am going to try and go on more so that I can provide commentary on the trips) I don't think it will focus on the boat trips but you can be sure that I will try and make this column interesting, noteworthy or at least put a smile to your face for having read it. It's been a while since I've had to do an article for the newsletter – so bear with me for this first month or so, I promise I will get better with time... sort of like fine wine... and I can even rhyme! :D

Ok, I will stop myself before I get out of control~

So, for boat trips coming up this year we currently have Santa Barbara, San Clemente, Wreck Alley, Farnsworth, the Oil Rigs and the Coronados Island... something for everyone. But don't forget, we also have a great ski trip scheduled in February. If you're interested, don't wait any longer... contact Ed Mickus right away to get signed up. We are also planning an Easter Egg Hunt! Yes, the Easter Egg Hunt is back – we're giving it a go. It will be our first annual Easter Egg Hunt since Laguna Sea Sports was sold. We are very excited and will be working very hard to make sure it is the best egg hunt yet. Watch your emails for this and more exciting events coming to you!

Thank you again and I am very excited to be working with (and for you) again this year. We ARE the best dive club in the area! Now go get wet!

Laura Bazerman



2009 Boat Dives

01/10/09	Catalina on the Sundiver	\$125	(Open Boat. Call 800-555-9446)
03/14/09	Catalina on the Bottomscratcher	\$115	(Open Boat. Call 714-963-4378)
05/09/09	Coronado Islands on the Lois Ann	\$100	
06/13/09	Santa Barbara Island on Bottomscratcher	\$160	
07/25/09	Oil Rig/Catalina on Bottomscratcher	\$115	
09/20/09	Farnsworth on the Magician	\$125	
10/31/09	San Clemente Island on Bottomscratcher	\$160	
11/21/09	Wreck Alley on the Lois Ann	\$80	



Dive Travel w/Gorman Dive Adventures

Dominica Island

- June 18th - 27th, 2009
- 8 days / 7 nights hotel w/breakfast
- 5 days of 2 tank dives
- 1 night stay in San Juan, Puerto Rico
- \$2399 pp dbl occ.
- 4 spots left
- \$245 to up-grade to Deluxe Overwater Suite



(Prices subject to change due to airline fuel surcharges & taxes)

Dive off the MV Bilikiki in the Solomon Islands

- Sept 13th to Sept 27th - 2009
- 8 Days / 7 Nights Live Aboard, meals & beverages included , deluxe cabins have twin beds and single bed above, private shower and bathroom in each cabin, 6 Days of 5 dives per day
- R/T Airfare from LAX to Nadi to Honiara to Nadi to LAX
- \$4256.00 pp dbl occ.
- Add-On: 5nights/ 4 days of diving - stay at Wananavu Resort, Fiji
- \$1362.00 pp dbl occ.

(Prices subject to change due to airline fuel surcharges & taxes)



LSD Joins Facebook

Hey did you know "*Laguna Sea Dwellers*" has a Facebook Page!!! Come on over and join the rest of the Gang!! Check it out and see what everyone is up to!!

So what it is all about? Facebook gives people the power to share and makes the world more open and connected. It's free and anyone can join. It's a social networking website which allows people to connect to other people who may share their interest. Millions of people use Facebook everyday to keep up with friends, upload an unlimited number of photos, share links and videos, and learn more about the people they meet.

Our group "*Laguna Sea Dwellers*" for the moment is "Global" open to anyone who would like to join and is managed by Cathy, Laura, Sherri and Mark Bogart (creator of the group). Members can post photos and videos or reply to invites posted by the administrators, such as Local Beach Dives, BBQ's, Boat Dives, Mixers...etc. You can write short messages on our Group "Wall" to be seen by other members in our group, like "I'm diving at Shaw's Cove tomorrow, anyone interested in joining me? You can even start a new "*Discussion Topic*" on the group Discussion Board.

Link to our Facebook Page

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=86892505367>

Facebook Help Center

<http://www.facebook.com/help.php>

Set up your Facebook Profile

http://www.facebook.com/help/new_user_guide.php#/help/new_user_guide.php?

Sherri

Cubillos



2008 Holiday Party Highlights

The 2008 Holiday Party was an unqualified success! 80 Laguna Sea Dwellers members and their guests celebrated the Club's 9th holiday party on December 6th at the Newport Beach Tennis Club. Tom Gorman opened the party by announcing the Board. We enjoyed a delicious dinner of prime rib and salmon. Afterwards, we had the traditional gift exchange. Throughout the evening Tom gave away raffle prizes ranging from cash to a trip to Cozumel which our incoming president, Cathy Solomon, won. No holiday party would be complete without a DJ and dancing. Who stole the show? Why Leonard of course!

Pictures courtes of John Lee and Jean-Yves Couleaud



Laguna Sea Dwellers Legends

Looking Forward to February

(cont'd from pg. 2)

While, I may have focused on morays eels, there are certainly more types of eels (over 600) that you may come across. For instance, conger, garden, and snake eels are also cruisin' the waters for you to gaze upon. For those who frequent the sushi bars, 'Unagi' and 'Anago' do not count, unless you happened to encounter them on a dive underwater.

When you're swimming up a creek, and an eel bites your cheek, that's a moray. Turn around and take a photo for a mug shot. Send that photo and others by the 20th to photo@lagunaseadwellers.com



Cathy Solomon, 2009 President, joins an elite group of past Presidents (l-r) Ken Feldman, Laura Bazerman, Steve Craig, Grady Scallon, Cathy Solomon, Brent Fairbanks, Tom Gorman

Julianne Steers

Cathy Solomon, President
(714) 612-5321
cathysolomon@sbcglobal.net

Laura Bazerman, Vice President
(949) 278-3574
lcbazerman@cox.net

John Lee, Secretary
(714) 473-8447
johnlee@pennairgroup.com

Sherri Cubillos, Treasurer
(949) 636-2516
cherri_cubillos@hotmail.com

J.R. Rafoth, Membership Chair/SPC
(714) 914-4525
jeromerafoth@earthlink.net

Eric Eckes, Newsletter Editor
(949) 887-8285
eeckes@cox.net

Debbie Karimoto
Member at Large
debkarimoto@cox.net

Bill Manrow
Member at Large/SPC
wmanrow@roadrunner.com

Julianne Steers
Member at Large
Photo Editor
Special Projects Chair
juliannesteers@earthlink.net
(949) 360-4052

Michel Loignan
Member at Large
lordmichel@gmail.com

Bruce McKeon
Member at Large/SPC
bhmckeon@cox.net

Tim Williams
Member at Large
rtwilliams15@sbcglobal.net

SPC = special projects committee

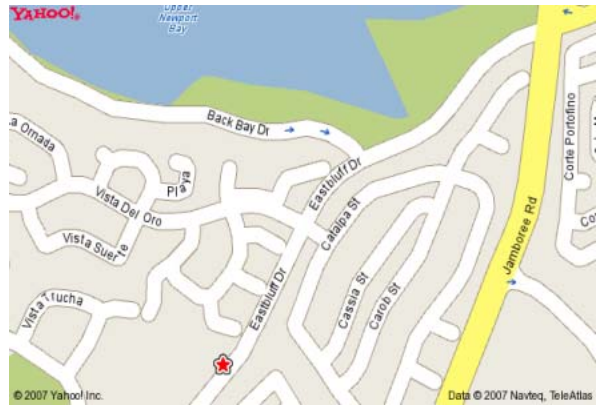
Newport Beach Tennis Club

2601 Eastbluff Dr.
Newport Beach, CA
92660
(949) 644-0050

(Location - Off 73 and
Jamboree)

www.nbtennisclub.com

Meeting starts at 6:30pm



Laguna Sea Dwellers

P.O. Box 511

Laguna Beach, Ca. 92652-0511

Celebrate the New Year with continuing SCUBA training!

Open water through Divemaster

www.regdivers.com



R.uss Johnson
(714) 609-5434

E.ric Eckes
(949) 887-8285

G.rady Scallon
(949) 584-4267

2009 Club Calendars

on sale for a limited time!



Featuring the photographic talents of our club members!

Only \$20!

Purchase from Julianne (949) 360-4052 or at club meeting.

Website

www.lagunaseadwellers.com

Check out our upcoming events

Hosted: by ECS