

CHANNEL ISLANDS DIVERS ^{V2}

NEXT CLUB MEETING:

OCT 18, 2023

6:00PM Dinner

6:30PM Meeting

Black Bear Diner

2401 E. Harbor Blvd.

Ventura, CA 93001

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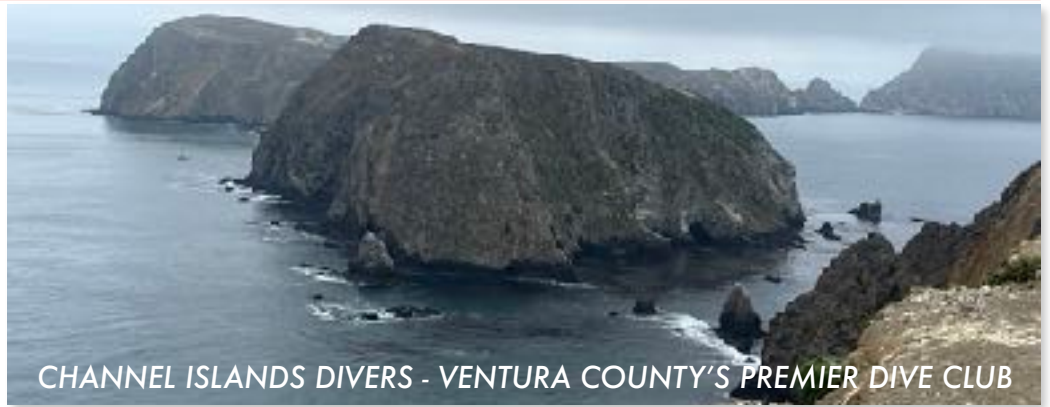
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Many Thanks to our Club Sponsors!

- ◆ **Channel Island Dive Adventures**
- ◆ **Maverick UnderSea Divers (MUD)**
- ◆ **Island Packers**
- ◆ **Black Bear Diner**
- ◆ **PCH Scuba**



BOTTOM TIMES

By Mike Cunningham
Club President

Hello Channel Islands Divers,

For the month of September we had another fantastic turn out.

I believe the official count got up to a bit more than 47. This one was easy to count. It was election night and most of the positions came in at a 47 total. Only club members vote so I added some small digit number, let's say 5 guests, and we have 52. It's a nice number. We're looking strong and it's staying consistent. I thank you all for showing up month after month. It's a choice you make to be here and you're doing it. Sometimes I feel like just grabbing a quick bite and going to bed, but then I have the mic and the rest of the electronics so there is that, I guess. But you all don't and still make it. It's once a month and we're all making the commitment. You deserve a big pat on the back. Thanks a whole lot, it feels good to see that many faces on a middle of the week, Wednesday night meeting. Now if there was just some way I could coordinate everyone committing on the same day of the same month, I'd have a shot at my attendance record. You knew that was coming. You knew I was going to work that in somewhere.

Back to the elections. We had a last minute write-in announcement for VP / Speaker Seeker. Bill Weinerth walked up and asked us if anyone

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SPONSOR'S CORNER: LOBSTER HUNTING WITH CIDA

Yes, the club has a trip scheduled for November 18 that we hope will allow members to hunt lobster, but if you would like to have one or two days that will focus on lobster hunting, check out or sponsor Channel Islands Dive Adventures (CIDA). CIDA has scheduled two consecutive days of diving on the Spectre that will focus exclusively on lobster hunting. Here are the details:

- ◆ **WHEN:**
Wednesday,
November 1,
7am-4pm and/or
Thursday,
November 2,
4am-1pm
 - ◆ **COST:** \$165 per day (\$330 for both days, with club members eligible for a 5% discount)
 - ◆ **LOCATION:**
Anacapa Island
- For more information, or to book your spots, email ken@channelislandsdiveadventures.com

was going to run for VP, we said no, he said, "Then I will then." No cliff hanger here, he won. Now Steve can retire and go and try to rid the oceans of all those pesky bugs. Thank you Steve Peterson for your 6 years this time on the board. You did a fantastic job with outstanding speakers.

Your Newsletter, that thing you're reading right now, has a new Editor. Stella Vaccaro announced a few months ago she would run and really saved the day. If nobody ran, my plan was to shut it down for the time being. Not going to happen now. Thank you Stella, it means a lot to the board. I enjoyed doing the Newsletter for 5 years before I was elected your President and it really hurt to think that I might be the one that pulls the plug on it. The rest of us on the board got re-elected for another term. No surprise there. I thank you and the rest of the board thanks you for allowing us to serve you another year. It's not all that hard, you should give it a shot next year.

Now for the good stuff. We had the Santa Rosa hike the weekend after our September general meeting. We have Monterey coming up fast in a few weeks, October 20 - 22. That's followed by a November 18 boat dive off the Spectre. Sold that trip out fast and grabbed 2 more and they sold immediately. My spies tell me we actually had 4 more that went full price just to be there with the rest of the club. That by itself speaks to the club's desire to get back to club dives. Anybody ever carve a pumpkin underwater? On October 28, Paradise Dive out of Santa Barbara is having a pumpkin dive carving up at Refugio. The board reached out to them and expressed an interest in joining in on the day's fun. They said sure thing. More details to come on that.

And just because we don't have any meetings in December doesn't mean we don't have club activities. That once a year Christmas Holiday party over in Camarillo is on Saturday evening, December 2. It's just like the ones from the past but this year it's different. This year we will not be having our Photo/Video contest with all the awards and acknowledgements to some very outstanding photographers and videographers. With all that was going on from the death of a good friend and board member, Karen Duran back in January, followed by some intense hunting for a new venue for our club meetings, then finding this one at Black Bear Diner and the logistics in getting it up and running while at the same time trying to keep up with the mad scramble to get as many activities going as possible for an activity staved group of divers, it got away from us. I know it was mentioned once or twice but not pushed as in the past. Then when you realize the October meeting has always been the deadline for getting your submissions in and that's in 3 weeks, well, it was a topic at

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the last board meeting. At the September board meeting it was brought up again and all agreed we'll just cancel the thing! Well, not really. This year is all that is canceled but it will be back next year, I promise. Only this year is canceled. As a bonus, you can use any material from this year and next year in the 2024 Photo/Video contest. And as part of that promise, if you don't hear me mention it at every meeting, just grab the mic and tell me I forgot. And that's grab the mic, SMALL m, not the Mike, spelled different with a BIG M, he's the one holding the small m mic. That's important. We need to be clear on that.

So, this October 18, 2023, the third Wednesday of the month join us at
BLACK BEAR DINER, 2401 East Harbor Boulevard, Ventura.
Start arriving at 6 or before for some lite socializing and dinner (we have the room then)
with the meeting starting officially at 6:30pm.

-Mike Cunningham, CID President



OCTOBER SPEAKER: RONALD BARRETT

Ronald Barrett, a rescue volunteer with the Channel Islands Marine and Wildlife Institute (CIMWI) will be our October Guest Speaker. Ronald will be telling us about Domoic Acid poisoning and the recovery work performed by the CIMWI.

Ronald has been rescuing marine mammals for 32 years. His first rescue was a hummingbird with a broken wing. No one was willing to work with it, so he tried. Eventually he worked his way up to birds of prey and terrestrial mammals. Ronald's first marine mammal rescuee was a Pacific harbor seal with serious pneumonia. He couldn't find anyone in the area that worked with them. He made some phone calls and finally was allowed to rescue it under the Ventura County Animal Control. Eventually CIMWI was established, and he has been working with them ever since.

Ronald is a U.S. Navy Environmental Protection Specialist working at Point Magu and San Nicolas Island. He has 44.5 years of experience as a Hazardous Materials Technician. He has worked all aspects of hazardous materials including Spill Response, Incident Commander, packaging and shipping explosives and hazardous materials by truck and aircraft all over the world. He now manages hazardous waste on San Nicolas Island, including shipping by cargo barge to be transferred to truck for final transport. We look forward to welcoming Ronald this month!



October Speaker and rescue volunteer Ronald Barrett at work tending to a California harbor seal.



<https://www.cimwi.org> Learn how you can help the Channel Islands Marine & Wildlife Institute. Find links on their website to their GoFundMe campaign to raise funds to buy food and supplies for the sick, injured, and malnourished rescued animals in their care.

CIMWI serves Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties

A MEMORABLE DAY HIKING SANTA ROSA ISLAND

September Club Event



SANTA ROSE ISLAND

Santa Rosa is the second-largest island. Nearly 15 miles long and 10 miles wide, its 84 square miles exhibit remarkable contrasts. Cliffs on the northeastern shore rival those of Santa Cruz Island. High mountains with deeply cut canyons give way to gently rolling hills and flat marine terraces.



This was our 3rd time joining the club on Santa Rosa Island and finally feel like I am getting to know it. The first time Tessie and I did a hike with Bill to Torrey Pines, the second with Steve to Cherry Creek, and this time with Bill around the ranch and beach. I like the hikes but I really love exploring the ranch and beach area where you can find old farm equipment, old fencing, and cool rock layers in the cliffs which make for some great pictures.

There were 10 of us plus my niece Brianna Seaberg and her boyfriend, Hunter who joined us for the first time. The ride out was nice but not much going on. The day of hiking and exploring and the trip into Painted Cave with the boat was great but the ride back was spectacular because of the whale and Orca action we were able to witness. In all the years I have been traveling through the

Article and Photos by Ken Kollwitz



channel, I have seen whales, seen Orca hunting sealions but never Orca hunting whales. What a sight to see plus there were more whales than I can remember seeing. Even the captain said he had never seen anything like it before.

We are lucky to have Island Packers and the Channel Islands National Park close by which is one of the least visited National Parks, something we should try to visit more. The club trips are great and looking forward to more in the future.

What I really enjoy about club trips like this is that it gives me time to really get to know other club members, way more than a meeting or dive trip because on those you are busy doing things and only have time for small chit chat. On hikes and other trips, you have time to talk and get to know each other more making the next trip or meeting more enjoyable. Thank you Sandra Bickford for putting the trip together.



NEW EVENT:**Spectre Boat Dive**

CURRENTLY SOLD OUT
WAITING LIST WILL BE AVAILABLE AT OUR
OCTOBER MEETING

WHEN: Saturday, November 18, 2023, 6:00am-4:00pm**WHERE: Dock D, Ventura Harbor****COST (members only): \$153 (regular price is \$185, plus credit card fees)****CLUB SPOTS AVAILABLE: SOLD OUT**

We've had several diving opportunities in recent months, and it is now time for our final boat dive of the calendar year aboard the *Spectre*. Once again, the *Spectre* is offering a great discount to club members. However, you may notice that the club price is \$10 more than our previous trips. Well, yes, the general public price has gone up from \$175 to \$185 plus credit card fees, which brings the final price to around \$192 for the general public. Along with the general public price increase, the price charged to the club has also gone up. However, In the club's case, the *Spectre* does not pass along any credit card fees to us, so the overall saving per each club member is approximately \$39. That savings more than covers your club membership fee for the year! Our Spectre spots usually sell out quickly, so don't miss your opportunity to go on our last dive trip of the year!



*****Payment to "Channel Islands Divers," and Dive Trip Liability Releases are due no later than the club**

meeting of October 18***

NOTE: Cancellations are not eligible for refund unless CID or the SPECTRE is able to sell your dive spot (which they are usually able to do!)

UPCOMING TRIP THIS MONTH:**MONTEREY WEEKEND & BOAT DIVE, October 20 - 22:**

- There is still time to sign up for the Asilomar Nature Walk with Ann Hoagland and the Wine Tasting Tour with the Morrisons.
- **BIG CHANGES FOR THE MONTEREY AQUARIUM, ON OCTOBER 22:**
- The Aquarium discontinued group discounts and special tours for large groups such as ours; therefore, all participants must buy their tickets directly from the Aquarium.
- In addition, the Aquarium no longer sells tickets at the facility. Tickets **must** be purchased online at: montereybayaquarium.org
- Our sponsor, Channel Islands Dive Adventures, has a special Aquarium surprise for 6 lucky members!

**Dive St. Croix
with PCH Scuba!**



PCH SCUBA 2024 TRIP TO ST. CROIX, US Virgin Islands

The last two years, club members have joined in PCH Scuba's annual St. Croix dive trip. Talk to Joe & Laurie Hennessy, or to Sandy Bickford, and they will tell you St. Croix is a wonderful dive experience. Here are some of the trip details:

- Location: Cane Bay Landing Resort, just across from the famous dive spot, The Wall
- Dates: July 27 - August 3, 2024. (Saturday to Saturday) Cost: \$1,399 per person, double occupancy; \$500 non-refundable deposit is required at the time of booking.
- Includes: Double-occupancy villa that has a full kitchen, with access to the resort's pool & laundry facilities; tanks & weights for The Wall dive; and at least two boat dive trips. Not included: food, car rental, airfare, and tips for dive boat crew.

Call Brett Bovard at PCH Scuba to reserve your spot: 818-991-1800. Don't delay because the trip always sells out the year before! <https://www.pchscuba.com>

SEPTEMBER 2023 CLUB MEMBERS RAFFLE WINNERS!

General Drawing:

Delbert Stewart - Coral-pattern dive headband
Ann Hoagland - Frogfish-design dive headband
Bill Weinerth - First Aid Kit
Lauren McDonald - \$80 Maverick UnderSea Divers air fill card
Dana Werner - \$25 Black Bear Diner gift card
Mike Cunningham - Sherwood ST1000 dive light
Erick Taylor \$25 PCH Scuba gift card
Franklin Murphy - Dolphin and Stingray Ocean Sole Flip-Flop Art
Guy McVicker - Large Seashell-graphic tote bag
Laurie Hennessy - 1 pound fresh, bluefin tuna, gifted to the club by Bill Weinerth
Deb Zumerling - Nudibranch motif tote bag

Door Prize:

Lauren McDonald - Gear marking pens

Membership Appreciation Drawing:

Sammy Marion - 2 lobster tails, gifted to the club by Steve Peterson



FROG FISH!



A word about our Progressive Drawing...

Remember...OCTOBER is Progressive Drawing month! So bring in your old tickets for another chance to win some great prizes! Raffle Coordinator Teresa Ray is sure to have another special dive-related item in our giveaway!

RECAP: REFUGIO BBQ & BEACH DIVE

SEPTEMBER 9, 2023

by Sandy Bickford, CID Dive Coordinator

32 members & 3 guests at Refugio this year!

L – R: Steve Peterson w/Ranger, Stella Vaccaro, Mark Thompson, Tony Frabasilio, Lenny Weinerth, Patrick Kelly, Teresa Bertuzzi, Bill Weinerth, Donnie Lockwood, Heather Moine, Guy McVicker, Mike Bushell, Lynn Bushell, Rob Marion w/Mia Lauren McDonald, Joe Hennessy, Teresa Ray, Mike Cunningham, Laurie Hennessy, Steve Lancaster, Diane Stevenson, Delbert Stewart, Bilel Trabels, Brandee Sisting, Franklin Murphy, Carrie Eller, Tony Frabasilio, Sandy Bickford



What a fun day we had! The sun was shining, diving conditions were acceptable, and as always, the food was delicious!

Activities started before 8:00 AM, with Mike Frabasilio hiking into the park and reserving the picnic site for us by covering all the tables and hanging the club's banner. Thank you so much, Mike, for doing that. It certainly made the setup much easier with all the tables already covered.

At about 8:30 AM, 11 club members and 3 guests traveled down to the east-end of the park to begin their dive. Visibility wasn't the best, and of course the water was still a bit on the cold side, but these hardy divers were not stopped in their quest to complete a beach dive. Some of the divers even harvested urchin and had uni as an appetizer before we started lunch. In addition to the 15 divers, two of our club members went paddle boarding and kept an eye on our group. Thank you Carrie and Diane for doing that!

Before the divers returned, several club members helped with the remaining setup, and Laurie Hennessy started the barbecue prep. After the dive, Laurie and Del Stewart acted as our chefs, and we had a wonderful meal of tri-tip, chicken, salads, potatoes, fruit, and numerous other yummy dishes members shared with the group. For dessert, Steve Peterson brought a selection of ice cream. The perfect way to end a meal.

After lunch, Teresa Ray, with the assistance of Brandee Sisting, conducted our traditional prize give-away. Teresa outdid herself this year with the prizes. Take a look at the winners and prizes, as listed below.

Now the day was coming to an end, just enough time for our group photo, and then everyone pitched in to complete the picnic area cleanup. We said our goodbyes, and headed home about 3:30 PM, with some of us thinking ahead to the 2024 Refugio BBQ & Beach Dive, which is scheduled for the first Saturday, September 7.

PRIZE DRAWING WINNERS

- Heather Moine** – Nudibranch Book & Hand Puppet
- Mike Frabasilio** – Underwater Headlamp
- Diane Stevenson** – Changing Poncho
- Mike Bushell** – Full, uncooked Tri-Tip
- Steve Peterson** – Changing Tent with Shower
- Tony Frabasilio** – Beach Towel with carrying basket & Stream2Sea Sunscreen

Some holiday news from our Dive Coordinator Sandy Bickford!....



NEW EVENT

ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

(BUT, NO PHOTO CONTEST)

DECEMBER 2, 2023, 6:00 PM


Where has the year gone? If you are like me, you can't believe it is already time to start thinking about the holidays. If you haven't already done so, please mark your calendar for Channel Islands Divers' Holiday Party, December 2nd at 6:00 PM.

Sadly, with the passing of our beloved treasurer, Karen Duran, we lost the board member who always coordinated the Photo Contest. We weren't quite able to fill the void left by Karen, but we have already started planning to bring the Photo Contest back at our 2024 Holiday Party. As with last year's party, we are returning to our traditional Holiday Party spot at the Camarillo clubhouse of the home of Jennifer and David Morrison. Location details will be provided at a future date.

Here is a reminder of what to expect at the Holiday Party:

- Your club provides the turkey and gravy, ham, hot-spiced cider, bottled water, soft drinks, coffee, paper plates, utensils, napkins, and condiments.
- Potluck: The club provides the main dishes, so please bring appetizers, breads, a side dish, or desserts to share with the group.
- White Elephant Gift Exchange: Always a good time! Please bring a wrapped, dive/ocean related gift in the \$20 to \$30 range. Prepare to laugh, a lot!

C A L E N D A R

<p>OCTOBER 2023</p> <p>18 General Meeting Speaker: Ronald Barrett Wildlife animal rescuer</p> <p>23 Board Meeting</p>	<p>NOVEMBER 2023</p> <p>15 General Meeting Speaker TBD</p> <p>18 Spectre Dive Trip</p> <p>20 Board Meeting</p>	<p>DECEMBER 2023</p> <p>Annual Holiday Party!</p>  <p>No club or board meetings in December</p>
<p>JANUARY 2024</p> <p>13 IMAX at CA Science Center - Blue Whales!</p> <p>17 General Meeting Speaker: Ken Kollwitz Dive Travel Tips</p> <p>22 Board Meeting</p>	<p>FEBRUARY 2024</p> <p>21 General Meeting Speaker: Chuck Graham Expert Kayaker and Author</p> <p>26 Board Meeting</p>	<p>MARCH 2024</p> <p>20 General Meeting Speaker TBD</p> <p>23 Board Meeting</p>

Board of Directors

Mike Cunningham, President
president@channelislandsdivers.org

Bill Weinerth, VP/Speaker Seeker
vicepresident@channelislandsdivers.org

Rob Marion , Secretary
secretary@channelislandsdivers.org

Ann Hoagland, Treasurer
treasurer@channelislandsdivers.org

Sandy Bickford, Dive Coordinator
dive@channelislandsdivers.org

Stella Vaccaro, Newsletter Editor
editor@channelislandsdivers.org

Del Stewart
webmaster@channelislandsdivers.org

Teresa Ray, Raffle Coordinator
raffle@channelislandsdivers.org

Laura Forsyth, Membership Coordinator
membership@channelislandsdivers.org

Mike Frabasilio, Club Librarian
library@channelislandsdivers.org

Current Membership: 79

Welcoming new members to the club...

David Cohen, Debbie Cohen, Melissa Wolfe, Michael Malone, Franklin Murphy

Membership Policy:

Club policy is to drop members from the roster **THREE MONTHS AFTER MEMBERSHIP EXPIRATION.**

Renewing Members:

Single - \$30 Family - \$45

New Membership:

Single - \$40 Family - \$55

membership@channelislandsdivers.org

Please mail renewals to:

CID Membership
P.O. Box 5801
Ventura, CA 93005

Or renew via Zelle

Zelle to email: cidtreasurer92@gmail.com
and please add note "single renewal" or "family renewal"