

**OCTOBER 2024 NEWSLETTER**

# CHANNEL ISLANDS DIVERS



**NEXT CLUB MEETING:**

**OCTOBER 16, 2024**

**Black Bear Diner  
2401 East Harbor Boulevard  
Ventura, CA 93001**

**Dinner starts at 6:00 PM  
Meeting starts at 6:30 PM**

**NEWSLETTER CONTENTS:**

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P7 – Prize Drawings (Progressive Drawing iPad 9) P8 – Photo Contest P10 – Monthly Beach Dive P11 – TRITON hunting trip P13 – Calendar

## ***BOTTOM TIMES***

**by club president,  
Delbert Stewart**

For those of you who were unable to attend our last meeting, I am pleased to share that we held our yearly elections and navigated them peacefully—no drama or mudslinging present. After the ballot count, I am happy to report that we are, in fact, a unified club. All new and returning board members were elected unanimously, except for the position of club president. Yours truly I won that position. Thank you!

Our new board consists of reoccurring members and under no duress 😊, volunteering to run another term, other board members transitioned to new

roles, new members stepping up to the board for the first time and others who have rejoined after a period of absence. We have no vacant board positions, and this new crew deserves a big round of applause. 🙌

Volunteering for this board comes out of passion for diving and love to our friends (members). Our social gatherings would end if it was not for these brave new members who willingly give their free time to keep this club active.



## Your new Board of Directors for 2024/25:

Del Stewart—President (**NEW**)

Bill Weinerth —VP/Speaker Seeker (**RETURNING**)

Ann Hoagland —Treasurer (**RETURNING**)

Rob Marion—Secretary (**RETURNING**)

Laurie Hennessy—Raffle Coordinator (**New**)

Steve Peterson —Librarian (**New**)

Franklin Murphy—Newsletter Editor (**New**)

Sandy Bickford—Dive Coordinator (**RETURNING**)

Rob Johnson—Membership Coordinator (**NEW**)

Laura Forsyth —Webmaster (**NEW**)

## THANK YOU TO MIKE, TERESA and STELLA!

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to this power couple, our former president, **Mike Cunningham**, and our former raffle coordinator, **Teresa Ray**, for their many years of dedicated service. Mike has served on the board for 10 consecutive years, holding every position at one point or another. He was the person that kept this club going during COVID with his monthly newsletter, which I believe kept us all informed and connected to the club. Those newsletters were reminders of better times to come. Teresa, as our raffle coordinator, also played an important role in supporting the club by maintaining our club raffle tradition alive. I have gotten to know both over the years and care deeply for them. They will be missed!!

A big thank you to **Stella** for stepping in as newsletter editor in October 2023! As you may recall, this position was vacant the previous year, and Sandy Bickford temporarily filled in as editor while also serving as Dive Coordinator. Sandy's temporary role lasted until the next election cycle. When Stella took over in October, it was a huge relief—without her, the club was at risk of not publishing a newsletter. Stella knew this, and she stepped up to the plate, delivering one home run after another with each edition! She was always on top of her game and brought her own unique style to the newsletter. She is an amazing person, and it was a pleasure working with her. Thank you, Stella!

## Now back to regular club business.

We look forward to seeing you at the October 16th meeting. It is **PROGRESSIVE RAFFLE NIGHT**, and the lucky winner is going to take **iPAD 9**. You can all thank Sandy for finding this deal!! Remember, bring those loser tickets from the last couple of meetings to increase your chances of winning this prize!

This coming meeting is the deadline date for **photo contest** submissions! We have already received a few submissions so please get your entries in. I will have submission hardcopies at the meeting, or you can download them from our [website](#) and email them, along with the submission form to [President@channelislandsdivers.org](mailto:President@channelislandsdivers.org). [see details on page 5](#)

Halloween is just around the corner, which means it's time for the **UNDERWATER PUMPKIN CARVING** contest, hosted by Paradise Dive Club! Last year, Channel Island Divers joined in, and we had a blast! It was my first time carving a pumpkin underwater, and it was surprisingly easy. So, we reached out again this year, and it is still on and we are invited. If you are interested, please RSVP. Visit [www.paradisediveclub.org](http://www.paradisediveclub.org), or catch me at the meeting, and I'll help you sign up. I will be attending and hope to see you all there!



Finally, don't forget our **Annual Holiday Party 🎄 & Photo Contest 📷** on December 7th at 6:00 PM. We will need volunteers to help with the setup and clean up. As in previous years, the party will follow a potluck format, and the board will be providing the juicy turkey and ham. More details will follow next month.



## ***OCTOBER'S SPEAKER BIO***

**Steve Peterson**

### **Baja Diving and Diving Tips**

Steve became certified at the age of 14 in 1965 through the Glendale YMCA and has been diving steadily ever since. Glendale YMCA owned Camp Fox on Catalina Island where Steve worked during his high school summers and learned lots of neat ocean stuff. Steve's diving led him into life guarding, and the combination of those developed into the career as a firefighter for Ventura City. He is now retired from the fire department. and spends his time collecting rents from his rentals, harvesting lobster, bike riding, and traveling. A few years ago, Steve went through training and became a volunteer naturalist for the Channel Islands National Park. Through them, he enjoys leading Island hikes.

Over the years, Steve has tried various ways to earn money from diving. Unfortunately, he found it hard to make a living while playing in the water. His diving related jobs have included: teaching, urchin diving, underwater construction, light salvage and recovery work, fish collection, biological studies contract work, deckhand, and chartering dive boats. While those jobs were lots of fun and some paid well, none were very steady. He finally gave up and decided that his diving would just be a fun hobby and his boat just a personal expense.

While attending Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. Steve received his NAUI Instructor's certification and taught for the college dive club. After graduation, he worked in the Bahamas for Underwater Explorers Society (UNEXSO) as a dive instructor/tour guide. It was a fantastic year, but Steve discovered there was a limited future career in scuba instruction, even at great resort. After a year in the Bahamas, Steve had many job offers from other resorts. However, no one wanted to pay him much.....not nearly what he thought he was worth. So, Steve returned to California and became a fireman. At the fire department, he worked with some extremely smart people who gave him great advice on buying residential rental property. Thankfully, Steve listened to them enough to make his life comfortable now.

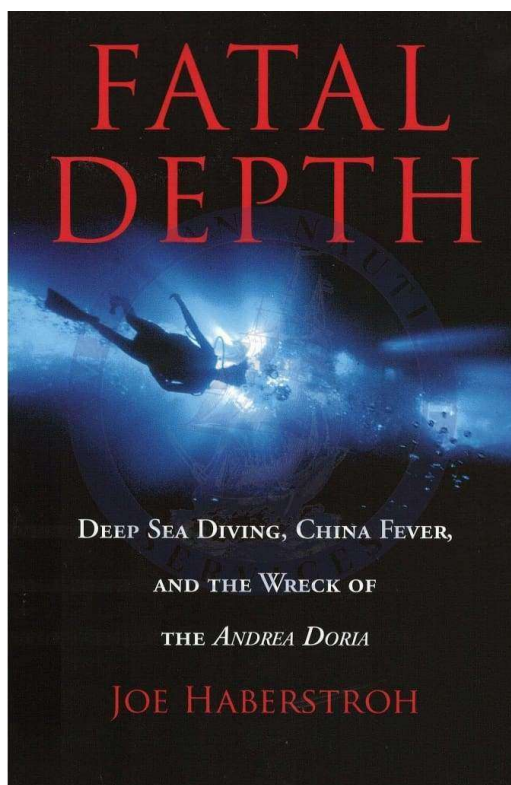
Steve claims to have been kayaking diving for 40 years, with his specialty being lobster harvesting the local reefs between Ventura and Santa Barbara. He also has a 24 ft Skipjack power boat specifically outfitted for diving our local islands. As much as Steve loves his boat, it's a whole lot of work. He finds it much easier to use his kayak when possible. Especially when he considers prep time, clean-up time, gas, and repairs. He enjoys kayak diving along our local coast even more than he enjoys boat diving the islands. With his flexible schedule, Steve can't wait till the beach conditions are right and then grab his favorite kayak and go.

## **Recommended Reading**

By your Librarian, Steve Peterson

I highly recommend reading **FATAL DEPTH** of which we have 2 copies in our club library. This book tells the story of diving the *Andrea Doria* by the East coast wreck divers. The *Doria* lies in 250 ft of water 45 miles south of Nantucket Island. I found this book to be highly educational, most interesting, and well written. **Fatal Depth** also ties in well with a few other of our library books (**Shadow Divers, Final Dive, Caverns Measureless to Man**). Those books will be discussed in future months.

For those members who are not aware, our library is awash with some really interesting material. We have numerous training manuals and DVD's, dive-travel guides, marine life identification, general dive related books, and whole slew of Clive Cussler books. Please come over and check out your library at our next meeting. If you are searching for anything in particular, feel free to ask. Perhaps I could help you find it.



# NEW EVENT!



## Divers Alert Network (DAN) Combined First Aid/Oxygen Course or Stand-alone Oxygen Course

**WHEN:** First Aid & Oxygen Course – Sunday & Monday, January 19 & 20, 2025 9am to 6pm  
Stand-alone Oxygen Course – Monday, January 20, 2025 1pm to 6pm

**WHERE:** Channel Islands Scuba, 1348 N. Moorpark Rd, Ste B, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

**MEMBERS' ONLY COST:** Combined Course = \$250 (regular price is \$400)  
Stand-alone Oxygen Course = \$150 (regular price is \$200)



L-R: Rob, Sandy, Eric, Delbert, Laura, and our instructor Larry, owner of CI Scuba.

When registration opened for our DAN First Aid and Oxygen Courses back in September, many club members asked if the classes would be offered again. Yes! Another class is open, and it is time to reserve your spot. Once again, you have the option of taking the DAN Combined First Aid & Oxygen Course on January 19 & 20, or the DAN Stand-alone Oxygen Course on January 20.

The Combined First Aid & Oxygen course meets the renewal requirements for Rescue Divers, Master Divers, and Instructors. The DAN Oxygen Course alone is strongly

recommended for club members who attend our monthly beach dives.

We are taking advantage of the holiday in January by offering the course on Sunday & Monday so you won't have to take off work to attend class. We don't know when the classes might be offered again, and the class sizes are kept small, so don't delay in reserving your spot. To book your spot, email our Dive Coordinator at: [dive@channelislandsdivers.org](mailto:dive@channelislandsdivers.org), or see Sandy at any meeting.

## **SEPTEMBER 18 PRIZE DRAWING WINNERS**

- Franklin Murphy – “Jaws” shark sushi plate
- Mike Cunningham – Mesh dive shoulder bag
- Sammy Marion – Fully stocked picnic basket
- Fahmy Fahmy – Kraken large beach/dive bag
- Bill Weinerth - \$100 gift certificate from Ultralight Camera Solutions
  
- **Door Prize:** Ken Kollwitz – Small dry bag

**\*\*\*OCTOBER 16, 2024 IS PROGRESSIVE DRAWING\*\*\***

**Progressive Drawing Prize is an **iPAD 9****

**(Be sure to bring your “loser” tickets from August and September to add to October. Progressive winning ticket must be present to win!)**



# Channel Islands Dive Club Annual Photo Contest

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS THE CLUB MEETING OF  
OCTOBER 16, 2024**



2024 Rules for Entry

**Winners will be announced at the club's annual HOLIDAY PARTY on  
Saturday, December 7, 2024**

The 2024 Photo and Video Contest is open to all current CID members. Membership must be in good standing at the time you submit your entries and receive a reward. **Since the Photo Contest was not held last year, members may submit photos from the calendar years of 2023 and 2024.** Entries will be evaluated by an independent, non-club member judge appointed by the CID Board. The entries will be anonymous to the judge.

**Photos and videos will be evaluated on the following criteria:**

**THEME** - How well the photo/video relates to scuba diving

**TECHNICAL MERIT** - Quality of composition, lighting, contrast, focus, etc.

**ARTISTIC MERIT** - Visual interest, emotional connection, etc.

Prizes for First and Second place will be awarded for each category. Each member may submit only **TWO** entries per category. However, each member will be limited to one prize per category. In the event the judge selects two entries by the same person as the winner for a category, a runner-up will be chosen by the judge for the second place prize.

**Contest Categories:**

**Underwater Wide Angel Photo**

**Underwater Macro Photo**

**Topside Photo** - The subject of the photo must be related to diving.

**Underwater Video** - The total length of each submission must not exceed 60 seconds and must be a single, unedited clip. No special effects or titles may be added.

**Novice** - If you have not previously won in our photo contest, you may enter two photos in this category, as well as the other categories.

**ENTRY FORMAT: Photos in a JPEG Format and Videos in MP4 Format.**

**DEADLINE:** All photo and video entries along with an entry form and release must be submitted to CID's president, Delbert Stewart, by the club's General Meeting on **October 16, 2024.**

You may send an email to [president@channelislandsdivers.org](mailto:president@channelislandsdivers.org) or give it to Delbert Stewart on a DVD-Rom or USB Flashdrive. Please make sure your name is clearly printed on the media. Media will be returned to you if you wish at a future club meeting. However, the CID Club cannot be responsible for lost items, so please keep a copy for yourself!



# Channel Islands Dive Club Annual Photo Contest 2024 Entry Form and Consent

**Copyright:** You hereby acknowledge and agree that you are the creator/author of the submitted materials and that your submission does not in any way infringe the rights of any other party. You hereby grant the Channel Islands Dive Club a royalty-free, perpetual copyright license to reproduce the submitted work on the CID website, in the CID newsletters and in other materials promoting the CID Club, and acknowledge receipt of consideration, therefore. You hereby indemnify and hold harmless the Channel Islands Dive Club, its officers, board, employees, independent contractors, agents, etc., from and all liability relating to your submission of any entry connection herewith.

Entrant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Entrant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_



Entry Category & Description:

- |          |           |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 2. _____  |
| _____    | _____     |
| 3. _____ | 4. _____  |
| _____    | _____     |
| 5. _____ | 6. _____  |
| _____    | _____     |
| 7. _____ | 8. _____  |
| _____    | _____     |
| 9. _____ | 10. _____ |
| _____    | _____     |

# MONTHLY BEACH DIVE



**WHEN:** Each Saturday after the club’s monthly meeting.

**MEETING TIME:** 8:00 AM

**COST:** Usually free, except for parking in some cases.

**LOCATION(s):** TBD, depending on ocean and weather conditions.

**LUNCH:** Usually following the dive at an agreed-upon restaurant

**DIVE LEADER:** Delbert Stewart, club president

**Because this event is free, it is open to non-members!**

Once a month, we will meet at the dive location on the Saturday morning immediately following the monthly club meeting. Since the location for a beach dive depends on the weather and ocean conditions, the exact dive spot will be chosen by the Wednesday monthly meeting and announced at the meeting, on the club’s Facebook page, and by an email blast to club members. Most of the shore dives will be one tank, unless the group agrees otherwise.

**THE OCTOBER 19 BEACH DIVE WILL BE AT: TBD. Announced at October 16 meeting.**

The beach dive schedule for the remainder of the year is:

- \* Saturday, October 19
- \* No beach dive in November due to the Annual Catalina Trip
- \* Saturday, December 21

If you have any questions or suggestions for beach dive locations, please feel free to email Delbert at [president@channelislandsdivers.org](mailto:president@channelislandsdivers.org)



**REFUGIO BEACH DIVE**

**SEPTEMBER 7, 2024**

Eric, Laura, and Andrea

(photo courtesy of Andrea)

# SCENES FROM OCTOBER 4, 2024

## DV TRITON HUNTING TRIP



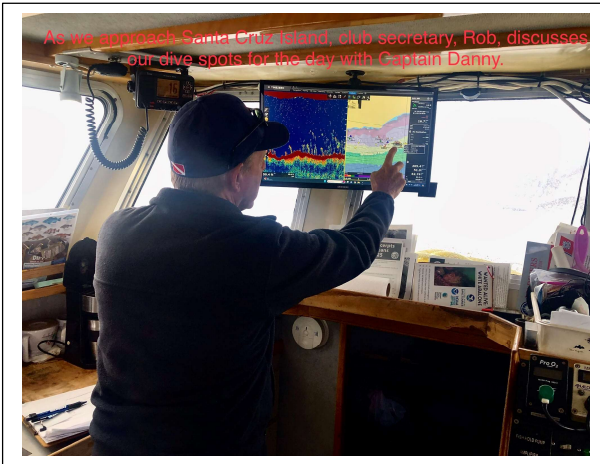
About 7:00 AM, Friday, October 4, 2024, and Captain Danny takes CTD members out of Channel Islands Harbor for a day of hunting at Santa Cruz Island.

**Captain Danny**



DV Triton is a rather fast boat. Club members Greg and Eric during the very smooth crossing to the backside of Santa-

**Greg & Eric during our crossing**



As we approach Santa Cruz Island, club secretary, Rob, discusses our dive spots for the day with Captain Danny.

**Rob checking out our dive spots**



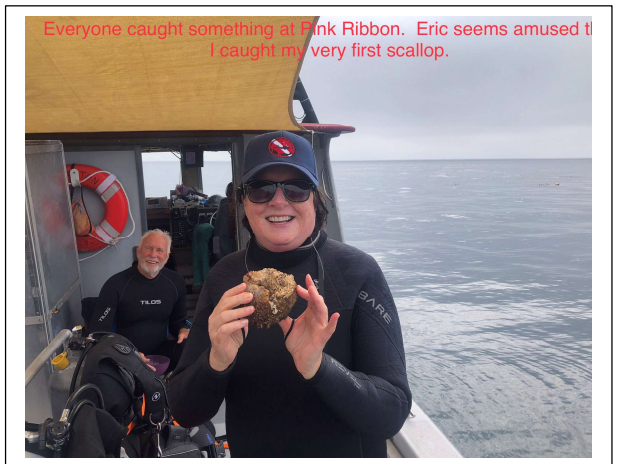
Time to suit up and get our tanks topped off as we reach our first dive spot, Radio Towers. Wow! The view was heavenly at this dive spot!

**First dive spot, Radio Towers**



Success at Pink Ribbon! Club member Franklin shows off one of the lobsters he caught at this beautiful dive spot. (Notice how calm the ocean is.)

**Franklin at second dive spot, Pink Ribbon**



Everyone caught something at Pink Ribbon. Eric seems amused that I caught my very first scallop.

**Everyone caught something at Pink Ribbon, even me!**

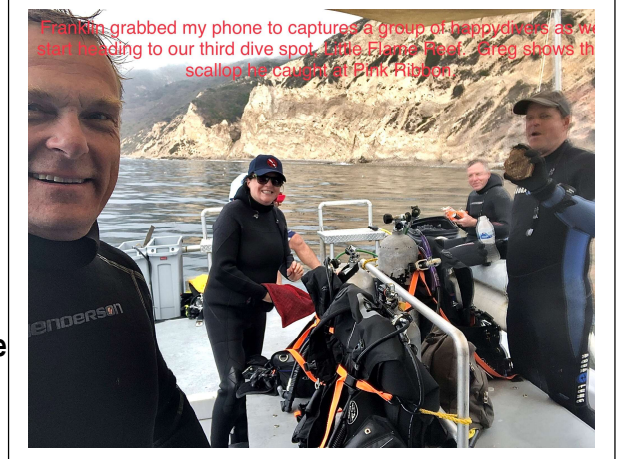
# SCENES FROM OCTOBER 4, 2024

## *DV TRITON HUNTING TRIP* (continued)



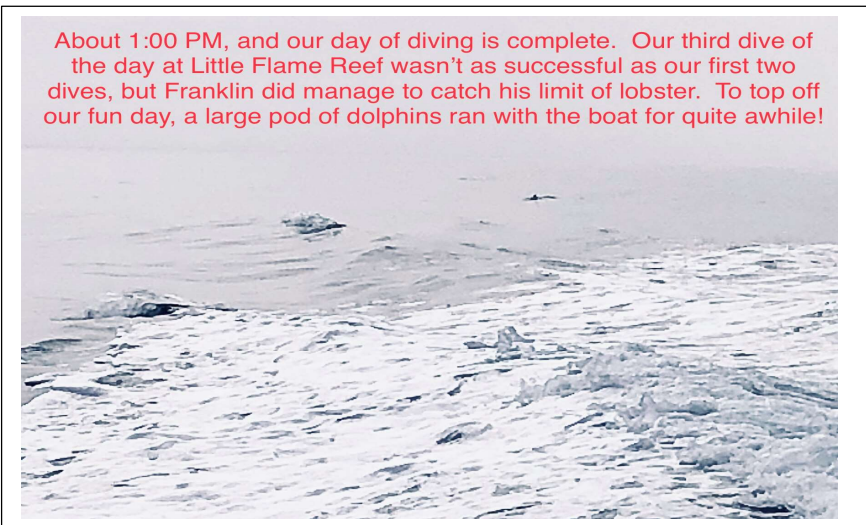
Diving at Pink Ribbon is completed, and Rob enjoys a hot lunch provided by DV Triton as we prepare to move to our third dive spot.

**Rob enjoying a lunch at Pink Ribbon**



Franklin grabbed my phone to capture a group of happy divers as we start heading to our third dive spot, Little Flame Reef. Greg shows the scallop he caught at Pink Ribbon.

**Greg shows his catch from Pink Ribbon while we make our way to Little Flame Reef**



About 1:00 PM, and our day of diving is complete. Our third dive of the day at Little Flame Reef wasn't as successful as our first two dives, but Franklin did manage to catch his limit of lobster. To top off our fun day, a large pod of dolphins ran with the boat for quite awhile!

**Heading home with the dolphins**

**Approaching Channel Islands Harbor with Platform Gina in the background**



2:30 PM, and a sure sign we are approaching Channel Islands Harbor as we pass platform Gina. Definitely a fun day of hunting with beautiful dives on DV Triton. Looking forward to another club trip on the Triton in January, which may even be a night dive!

# CALENDAR

<p><b>OCTOBER</b>  <b>16</b> General Meeting            Speaker: Steve Peterson            Diving Baja  <b>PROGRESSIVE DRAWING!!!</b>  <b>19</b> Club Beach Dive  <b>21</b> Board Meeting</p>	<p><b>NOVEMBER</b>  <b>9 – 11</b> Catalina Dive Trip!  <b>20</b> General Meeting            Speaker TBD  <b>PARTICIPATION DRAWING!!!</b>  <b>25</b> Board Meeting             No Beach Dive this month.</p>	<p><b>DECEMBER</b>  <b>7</b> Annual Holiday Party &amp;            Photo Contest             No Club or Board Meetings this month.</p>
<p><b>JANUARY</b>  <b>15</b> General Meeting            Speaker TBD  <b>PROGRESSIVE DRAWING!!!</b>  <b>18</b> Club Beach Dive  <b>19 &amp; 20</b> First Aid &amp; Oxygen            Courses at CI Scuba  <b>20</b> Board Meeting</p>	<p><b>FEBRUARY</b>  <b>19</b> General Meeting            Speaker TBD  <b>PARTICIPATION DRAWING!!!</b>  <b>22</b> Club Beach Dive  <b>24</b> Board Meeting</p>	<p><b>MARCH</b>  <b>19</b> General Meeting            Speaker TBD  <b>MEMBER APPRECIATION            DRAWING!!!</b>  <b>22</b> Club Beach Dive  <b>24</b> Board Meeting</p>

## Board of Directors

**Delbert Stewart, president**

[president@channelislandsdivers.org](mailto:president@channelislandsdivers.org)

**Bill Weinerth, VP/speaker seeker**

[vicepresident@channelislandsdivers.org](mailto:vicepresident@channelislandsdivers.org)

**Rob Mariton, secretary**

[secretary@channelislandsdivers.org](mailto:secretary@channelislandsdivers.org)

**Ann Hoagland, treasurer**

[treasurer@channelislandsdivers.org](mailto:treasurer@channelislandsdivers.org)

**Sandy Bickford, dive coordinator**

[dive@channelislandsdivers.org](mailto:dive@channelislandsdivers.org)

**Laura Forsyth, webmaster**

[webmaster@channelislandsdivers.org](mailto:webmaster@channelislandsdivers.org)

**Laurie Hennessy, raffle coordinator**

[raffle@channelislandsdivers.org](mailto:raffle@channelislandsdivers.org)

**Rob Johnson, membership coordinator**

[membership@channelislandsdivers.org](mailto:membership@channelislandsdivers.org)

**Franklin Murphy, newsletter editor**

[editor@channelislandsdivers.org](mailto:editor@channelislandsdivers.org)

**Steve Peterson, librarian**

[library@channelislandsdivers.org](mailto:library@channelislandsdivers.org)

**CURRENT MEMBERSHIP: 112**

**WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:** Julia Beuning, Rebecca Birchfield, Dale & Marci Burrows, Isaac Degado, Manuel Hurtado, Justin Shepard, Deidre Silva, Bilel Trabelsi

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

**Membership Prices:** Renewing Membership: Single = \$30; Family = \$45

New Membership: Single = \$40; Family = \$55

Please mail renewals to: CID Membership, P.O Box 5801, Ventura, CA 93005

Or, renew by Zelle: [cidtreasurer92@gmail.com](mailto:cidtreasurer92@gmail.com)