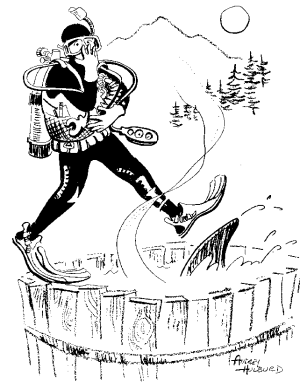


MARIN SCUBA CLUB NEWSLETTER

Volume 18 Number 5 May, 2010



Movie Review: "Oceans"

by Larry Clinton

There's nothing Mickey Mouse about the new documentary "Oceans" from Disney Nature films. On a recent visit to Hollywood, Jane and I were fortunate to attend the Earth Day premier of this lavish production at the El Capitan Theatre, a beautifully restored movie palace with a pre-film organ recital on a "mighty Wurlitzer" pipe organ.

In making "Oceans," Directors Jacques Perrin and Jacques Cluzaud circled the earth exploring the playful splendor and the harsh reality of the weird and wonderful creatures of the sea. The hype for the movie claims it features "spectacular never-before-seen imagery captured by the latest underwater technologies." While it is, indeed, an enchanting visual experience, Jane pointed out that we've seen many similar images – from the South African sardine run to polar bears under arctic ice, at Marin Scuba Club presentations – thanks to our world class presenters.

You probably won't learn anything new from "Oceans," but the film is definitely worth seeing.

5/22 Poolside Potluck

Don't miss the Marin Scuba Club's Spring Potluck Picnic on Saturday afternoon, May 22 at Ken Smith and Lucia Christopher's home in San Rafael. Elliott will be BBQing his famous boneless ribs, so please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

You should have received an Evite to this event by now, and a flyer is enclosed with more details, including driving directions.

This event is free for each MSC member and one guest (space is limited). Bring a swimsuit and towel if you'd like to go for a dip.

Last Chance to Reserve for June 10-13 Dive & Dine

This year we'll be back at the group campsite in Russian Gulch State Park for the June 10-13 Dive & Dine. This will be the last newsletter before that weekend, so don't wait to make your reservation. Fill out the enclosed liability waiver/reservation form and mail it with a check ASAP or bring it to the May 19 meeting. Advance pre-paid reservations are a

must; we need to know how many to expect since the Club provides breakfast on Saturday and Sunday morning, plus beverages Saturday night.

Parking spaces are limited, so carpooling is highly encouraged. RVs cannot be accommodated at the group

site. The site is reserved for Thursday night 6/10 for any early birds who can't wait for the fun to begin.

As indicated in the enclosed flyer, Friday and Saturday night's dinners are potlucks. We hope to have a selection of abalone entrees Saturday night, so please bring side dishes, salads or desserts to share. Check the flyer for other details.

Every attendee must fill out the waiver/reservation form, even non-divers. No one will be able to attend without a signed waiver on file. You can sign up for just one night's camping or only the Saturday evening potluck, and you can bring guests. Please indicate where you'd be able to help out: shopping, transporting supplies, breakfast setup or cleanup on either Saturday or Sunday. Our biggest need is firewood. If you can provide or transport some, please let Jane Clinton know at jkclinton@comcast.net.

Sorry, but no refunds will be made for reservations cancelled less than one week in advance.



Still from "Oceans"

Top 10 Again

Last month we presented a list of Top 10 Things You Won't Hear from a Dive Operator when Booking a Trip, from the Bay Area Divers Scuba Club of Clear Lake, TX. Here's installment #2:

Top 10 Ways to Lose an Annoying Buddy:

10. Give the "I'll follow you" signal and then go the opposite direction.
9. Send him back to the boat for more air.
8. Tell him to meet you at the "anchor line" on a drift dive.
7. Two words: camouflage wetsuit.
6. Tell him you spent a lot of money for this dive and you want to get maximum bottom time. So the plan is for one person to breathe all his gas, share air with his buddy, then do an emergency ascent from 130 feet.
5. Let him enter the shipwreck first, then close and lock the door.
4. While gearing up, tell him not to pay attention to the large sores on your mouth. If he needs air, you'll be there.
3. Blow up party balloons on the boat using his regulator.
2. Paint "FULL" needles on his gauges and remove the real ones.
1. Confess you never really got certified, you're just using a c-card you found while snorkeling.

Obama Administration Harpoons Its Own Ocean Policy

by Larry Clinton

In a distressing series of policy reversals, the Obama administration "has been throwing harpoons into the very ocean policy the president proposed," according to the San Francisco Chronicle.

First was the President's support of off-shore oil drilling, which hopefully will be dropped after the disastrous oil rig explosion in the Gulf of Mexico. Next was the administration's proposal to reopen commercial whaling if Japan and other whaling nations agree to reduce the number of animals being killed for "scientific whaling."

Additionally, in March the Center for Biological Diversity sued the Obama administration for failing to designate critical habitat for the endangered black abalone, once common in Southern California tide pools, that has declined by 99 percent since the 1970s. Last year, in response to a Center petition, black abalone was listed as endangered under the

Endangered Species Act. With that listing, federal agencies by law must protect the abalone's critical habitat. Experts predict that without effective conservation measures, black abalone will be extinct within three decades due to the combined effects of overfishing, disease intensified by global warming, and ocean acidification.

Hopefully, it won't take another disaster – or a protracted legal battle – for Obama and his policy wonks to do the right thing for the oceans and our future.

Sea Turtles in May

Chris Pincetich is a Marine Biologist, Environmental Toxicologist, and campaigner for the Sea Turtle Restoration

Project, based in Marin. The STRP fights to protect endangered sea turtles in ways that make cultural and economic sense to the communities that share the beaches and waters with these gentle creatures. They have a 20-year history of gaining protections for the world's endangered sea turtles, from closing a sea turtle slaughterhouse in Mexico to implementing mandatory fishing gear changes across the globe.



Photo from www.seaturtles.org © George Duffield

Dr. Pincetich's presentation on May 19 will begin with an introduction to the world's 7 species of sea turtles (all endangered), cover the historic challenges to conserving these species, and focus on current local and global campaigns to protect marine life from wasteful fisheries, plastic pollution, and destructive development on valuable nesting beaches.

Monterey Dive Photo & Video Competition

On August 6-8, divers from Seattle to San Diego will converge on Monterey for a 24-hour competition open to underwater photographers and videographers of all experience levels. A panel of professional photographers will announce the winners on Sunday afternoon August 8. For the first time, entrants can now dive off private and commercial watercraft, from kayaks to yachts. For info or to register, go to www.ncups.org/beach.html.

Beneath the Sea Photo/Video Winners

Beneath the Sea, the largest consumer scuba & dive travel show in America, is held in March at the Meadowlands Exposition Center, NJ. Each year, Beneath the Sea gives amateur underwater photographers and videographers a chance to compete with their peers from across the world. You can view the winning images and videos at http://www.beneaththesea.org/photo_contest_2010.html.

BOTTOM TIMES

May 15-16 (Sat.-Sun.): *SCUBA Show and film festival*, Long Beach Convention Center. For more information, call (310) 792-2333 or visit www.scubashow.com.

May 19 (Wed.): Board Meeting, 6:00, *Club Meeting*, 7:30. Dr. Chris Pincetich, Sea Turtle Restoration Project, Protecting Endangered Turtles. Call Jeffrey (707-861-9077).

May 22 (Sat.): Spring Potluck at Ken and Lucia's home, San Rafael. Flyer enclosed. Call Jane (415-332-6196).

June 2 (Wed.): *Newsletter deadline*. See below.

June 8 (Tues.): *World Oceans Day*. For info: www.oceanconservancy.org/site/PageServer?pagename=worldoceansday.

June 10-13 (Thurs.-Sun.): *Spring Dive & Dine*, group campsite, Russian Gulch State Park, Mendocino. Flyer and signup sheet enclosed. Call Jane (415-332-6196).

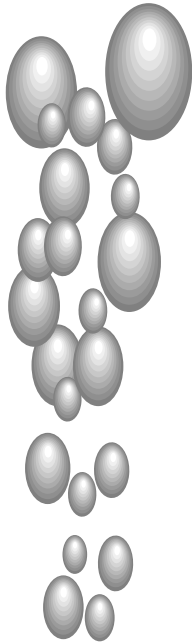
June 16 (Wed.): Board Meeting, 6:00, *Club Meeting*, 7:30. Art Haseltine, underwater b&w and kite aerial photography. Call Jeffrey (707-861-9077).

Aug. 6-8 (Fri.-Sun.): *California Beach and Boat Dive Photo/Video Competition*, Monterey. Info at www.ncups.org/beach.html.

August 8-10 (Sun.-Tues.): *Peace Liveaboard* to Southern Channel Islands. Individual berths available. Contact Pierre at sfreefdiver@comcast.net.

Sept. 10-12 (Fri.-Sat.): *Fall Ab Campout*, Van Damme St. Park. Call Jane (415-332-6196).

Sept. 25 (Sat.): *Coastal Cleanup Day*. Go to <http://www.healthebay.org/volunteer/ccd/> for information or to volunteer.



We need articles, recipes, short notes, pictures, SCUBA funnies or whatever for future newsletters and for our website.

Website: E-mail photos with a caption and/or article and photo credits to John Brenneis (webmeister@marinscuba.org). If you do not have access to a scanner, mail photos along with captions and photo credits with a self-addressed stamped envelope if you want the photos back. Ric's address is 1 Issaquah Dock, Sausalito, CA 94965.

Newsletter: Deadline is usually the first Wednesday of the month - two weeks before the meeting.

Send materials for future articles in one of the following ways. Note that these are listed in priority order.

1. E-mail text to Larry at click@dipsymusic.com. It's best to just send the material in the body of the e-mail and not as an attachment.
2. Send a CD to the address below. MS Word - PC format is preferred, otherwise include a note as to what the format is.
3. Fax typed manuscripts to 415-339-1361.

Pictures and Graphics - E-mail JPEG files to click@dipsymusic.com or mail CDs or hard copy to Larry Clinton, 29 Gate 6-1/2, Sausalito, CA 94965.

Marin Scuba Club
78 Edward Ave.
San Rafael, CA 94903



Next Meeting

Wed., May 19

Program:

Dr. Chris Pincetich
Sea Turtle Restoration Project
Protecting Endangered Turtles

Happy Hour 6:00-7:00
Socializing: 7:00
Meeting: 7:30-9:15

The Flatiron, 724 B St,
San Rafael

MARIN SCUBA
CLUB
NEWSLETTER

The Club meets the
3rd Wednesday of each month
(except December)

Marin Scuba Club
Board of Directors
www.marinclub.org

President

Nathan Cobert *ncobert@earthlink.net* (415) 479-1777

Vice President

Patrick Ritter *patrickritter@comcast.net* (415) 457-9921

Treasurer

Barbara Sebring *gandbsebring@msn.com* (415) 499-0799

Secretary

Arlene Rudy *arudy24@aol.com* (415) 927-1450

Membership Coordinator

Vacant

Newsletter Editor/Publicity Coordinator

Larry Clinton *click@dipsymusic.com* (415) 332-6196

Activities Coordinator

Jane Clinton *jkclinton@comcast.net* (415) 332-6196

Program Coordinator

Jeffrey Zankel *divedog@verizon.net* (707) 861-9077

Webmaster

John Brenneis *webmeister@marinclub.org* (415) 407-3161

Immediate Past President

Elliott Zalta *driftinez@comcast.net* (415) 461-6644
