



Barbary Coast Bulletin

The Monthly Newsletter of the Barbary Coast Divers

February 2001

Join Us At Our Next Meeting: March 21

Club meetings are held in sunny San Francisco on the third **Wednesday** of every "ODD-numbered" month (example: January, March, and so on) at **ROUND TABLE PIZZA** - (415) 668-4300, 5160 Geary Blvd. at the corner of 16th Ave. Our Meetings in "EVEN" months will be held at that month's Club Dive.

At the Next BCD Meeting:

We will meet in our **downstairs** suite at Round Table Pizza (yes, we've been usurped by the traffic school again). Come early--we expect a record turnout of members this month!

At the Last BCD Meeting:

Only the Bush Inaugural Ball was more heavily attended. OK, actually we had a paltry turn-out, just Roy, Carol and Curt sitting around a greasy pizza, telling old fish tales. But our fearless trio was very productive--they came up with lots of terrific events for the next year. See page 2 for The List.

Read this newsletter on the web at www.barbarycoastdivers.org

If you're ready to read this newsletter on the "World Wide Web" (come on, you've heard of it), we the editors would be happy to quit lickin' stamps -- just let Catherine know who you are: catzan@barbarycoastdivers.org.

Barbary Coast Dive Club Newsletter

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Announcements & News

Upcoming Meetings

In case you've been living under a rock and didn't get the message, we now meet on **ODD** months at Round Table Pizza (see [page 1](#))

Here are our future meeting dates:

March 21

May 16

July 18

September 19

November 21



It's that time again: Pay your BCD dues!

Just when you thought you might be able to afford your gazillion-dollar PG&E bill, here comes the BCD renewal. But think of all you get: camaraderie, jokes that are in bad taste, an opportunity to listen to Pete's Baja spear-fishing story one more time, a complete set of 35 diving buddies and rent-a-friends, all for only \$35.

But, wait. If you act now, we'll throw in a subscription to CenCal diver's club (<http://www.cencal.org>), a \$20 value. CenCal represents all divers in California and lobbies for the rights of divers and they kick ass.

Send your \$35 check to: Carol Reed, 150 Sadowa, San Francisco, CA 94112
Queries? Call Carol at 415-668-6662 (work) or 415-333-8820 (home).

Year 2001 Dive Club Events:

(Note: For any of the single day dives, you can always make it a Sat-Sun trip-call one of your BCD dive buddies and make arrangements)

March 4 (Sunday): Monterey Day Dive

March 31 - April 1: Abalone Opener

We've reserved the little house in Mendocino. Sign up for your space today by contacting [Carol Reed](#).

May 13 (Sunday): Golden Gate Bridge Paddle

We'll put our kayaks in at Kirby Cove near the Golden Gate Bridge and paddle out along the Marin Headlands. **NO**, you don't need to have a kayak-you can rent them in Sausalito. I plan to.

May 26 - 28 Memorial Day Weekend

We have four camp sites reserved at Caspar Cove.

June 23-24: Abalone Closer

We will rent camp sites at Still Water Cove or Salt Point. Stay tuned.

July 7-8: Halibut Dive

Fancy swimming across the sand flats looking for funny-looking flat fish? If so, join the group in Monterey. (Accommodations not provided-so book now!)

July 21-22: River Floating

... and eating chocolate bars in Oakdale, Calif. (When not floating on the river, you can tour the Hershey's factory.)

August 4-5: Abalone Reopener

We'll camp at Still Water Cove or Salt Point. Stay tuned.

September 1-3: Labor Day Dive

We'll be renting the Manchester Beach Group Site

October 6-7 Columbus Day

We've reserved the little house to commemorate the imperialist oppressor named Columbus, and to do some diving too.

November 17-18

The Mendocino house. Stock up on some abalone for the cold winter ahead.

December 2002: The Christmas Party

RAW SEWAGE PLUGS UP THE MONTEREY HARBOR CLEANUP

Just when you thought it was safe to get back in the water, a new menace is terrorizing Monterey waters: **sewage**. Yes, that nasty, noxious stuff you flush down your toilet is floating around offshore (where did you think sewage pipes emptied?) just waiting to ooze past you on your next dive. In the last few weeks, the Monterey County Health Department has closed several prime dive spots to prevent divers and swimmers from a chance meeting with a past meal.

Yes, even the treasured **Monterey Harbor Cleanup** was canceled because the water was too dirty for swimming. The event will be rescheduled, promises the organizer, David Clayton. We are waiting to hear the new date.

Why the mess? Heavy rains push street debris, dog droppings, and garbage into storm drains, where it eventually flows out to sea without being treated. Stormwater is generally not treated, unlike sewage water that drains from toilets and sinks. But sewer pipes can burst, sending raw sewage into the storm drain system, where it is washed out to sea, causing elevated bacteria levels. To gauge the levels of microscopic flotsam and jetsam, biologists measure **fecal coliform**, a type of bacteria.

To find whether your favorite dive spot is closed before you schlep your gear down to Monterey, call the Health Department at 800-347-6363 or check their web site at <http://www.co.monterey.ca.us/health/beaches>

In memory of Mia Tegner



Marine researcher killed in diving accident

Mia Tegner, a prominent marine researcher who'd completed more than 3,000 dives, died last month during a recreational diving trip to a sunken wreck off San Diego.

Tegner and three companions, including her husband, were exploring the wreckage of the El Rey when she began to run out of air. She returned to the surface and collected a fresh tank, then submerged to finish her decompression stops. A few minutes later, her companions saw the tank bob to the surface. Tegner's body was found at a depth of 90 feet.

A researcher at Scripps Institution of Oceanography in San Diego, Tegner specialized in kelp forest ecology and was involved in efforts to restore sea urchin and white abalone populations off the California coast.

I had the pleasure of meeting Tegner when I wrote an article for California Wild magazine about scientists' heroic struggle to save white abalone from extinction. Tegner was featured prominently in my article as the enthusiastic researcher who spent hours in a cramped research submarine as part of the effort to document the decline of white abalone. Read the article at

<http://www.calacademy.org/calwild/fall2000/abalone.html>

--Catherine Zandonella

Dramamine impairs divers' mental performance, study shows. But Sudafed is OK.

If being on the ocean makes you queasy, listen to this: a new study shows that Dramamine severely impairs a diver's mental functioning and judgment.

Researchers from the University of Pittsburgh administered verbal, memory, and other tests to divers in a chamber at 3 feet and 66 feet of pressure. Divers given Dramamine prior to the tests showed a significant decrease in mental flexibility scores.

Divers should avoid Dramamine prior to diving, the researchers concluded in the study.

The good news? **The study found no negative effects for Sudafed** (pseudoephedrine), which divers often use to clear their nasal passages. Sudafed-takers retained full mental capacity in the study.

What can divers use for sea sickness? According to tests by the U.S. Navy, the most effective seasickness prevention medicine for divers is the prescription-only **Transderm Scop patch**. But if you want to go all-natural, try ginger. Studies show that 1000 milligrams of **ginger** taken 30 minutes before the onset of motion can greatly reduce nausea.

Adapted from an article that appeared in the October 2000 issue of *Undercurrent*.

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· You can spot divers by:

1. Funny Tan Lines
2. Big Watch
3. Says "Huh" alot
4. Bad shocks and springs in car
5. Scars from trigger fish bites
6. Expertise on anti-histamines

· You can spot old time divers by:

1. Funny Tan Lines
2. Big Expensive Watch
3. Old Jeep with bad shocks
4. Log Book has volume number on cover
5. Deaf in at least one ear
6. Has multiple scars.
7. Has cylinders older than you are
8. Talks about making their first wet suit
9. Dive gear is faded
10. Limp from Dysbaric Osteonecrosis

· You can spot newbie divers by:

1. Sunburned
2. Timex Watch
3. Nice car
4. Fills in all the blanks in their logbook
5. No diving related scars
6. Says "Wow, did you see that" alot
7. Equipment looks nice
8. Perfect hearing

Big Fish: The Ling King Strikes Again

Curt and Roy engaged in a little friendly scuba competition last Feb. 4, during an amicable day trip to Monterey. I don't have a picture of Roy's fish, but Curt's was taller than a small child, as shown below.

I guess nobody can beat the Ling King.



THE "ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN TRIP" TO UJUNG KULON

by Siodin kho

We called this the "anything can happen" trip because our club tried twice already to visit Ujung-Kulong National Park. The first trip was canceled because, after we spent all our money and time (five hours by car), the boat could not take off from the pier because of rough weather. On our second attempt, we received a phone call from the boat captain eight hours before the boat was due to depart: the boat had been hit by a storm and needed to be repaired. Tell me, what you can do with all of the tanks that we already rented, what can we do with all of the instant food that we already bought, what about the down payment? In Indonesia the weather forecast doesn't work for divers. We just rely on the fisherman instinct. We do not have any special organization like CenCal that helps divers. There is an association but it doesn't do anything.

Our goal was to dive at Ujung Kulon (Ujung means 'the end' and Kulon means 'west'.) The park lies at the end of the west part of Java Island that has a border to the Indian Ocean. It's kind of like the California Coast -- the conditions are unpredictable but beautiful. Close by there is a little island called Peucang Island. The national park is located in the extreme southwest tip of Java on the Sunda Shelf, includes the Ujung Kulon peninsula and several offshore islands, and it encompasses the natural reserve of Krakatau. In addition to its natural beauty and geological interest - especially for the study of inland volcanoes - it contains the largest remaining area of lowland rain forests in the Java plain and also an interesting place for diving. The water surround the volcano is warm and totally has a different creature and contour. Several species of endangered plants and animals can be found there, the most threatened of all being the Javan rhinoceros. Ujung Kulon is only accessible by boat (5-6 hour) from Labuhan to Pulau Peucang or Tamanjaya.

