

NEWSLETTER



San Jose Flipper Dippers

APRIL 2024

GENERAL MEETINGS HELD 3RD WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH WWW.SJFLIPPERDIPPERS.COM

Ah, ha, ha, ha, stayin' alive, stayin' alive Ah, ha, ha, ha, stayin' alive!

In March, eighteen Dippers and four friends were able to complete their Red Cross, Adult First Aid/CPR/AED certifications! President Barbara Davis arranged with past Dipper Bill Winter to set up the program. Those who signed up completed the required online sessions and then got together for the in-person hands-on portion. The first group met at Grace Chi's apartment complex and two other groups met at Tom and Jackie Gardner's home. For members of the Flipper Dippers the cost of the program and pizza dinners was covered by the Club. See, "membership has its privileges." (Photos by Jackie Gardner)



March 24th Fourth Sunday Cycle (FSC) brings Dippers together

Above, from left, Howard Chien, Carl Tuttle, Kyle (Mr. Grace) Sanner, Jim Rezowalli and Frances Lee enjoyed a bike ride along the Los Gatos Creek Trail. The group started at the Pruneridge shopping center, in Campbell and rode to Vasona Lake, in Los Gatos. The trail was a little wet in spots from the prior day's rain but the weather was comfortable for the ride. Returning to the starting point, they enjoyed lunch at the Rock Bottom Brewery. This month, the April 28th ride will be coordinated by Cedric Wright as Jim will be traveling in Europe. See the activity calendar on page 7 for information. Yes, we are a dive club and we participate in many other outdoor activities too!



Above, Tom Gardner observes Jeff Roland and Les Addison using the AED (Automated External Defibrillator).

Above right, Howard Chien listens to the AED for instructions.

Far right, Bill Winter monitors the training.

Right, Frances Lee practices chest compressions on the mannequin.



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PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Hi All!

We had some great club dives in March and I am looking forward to more in April, including the 15th Annual Underwater Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 6th! There's also a Del Monte beach cleanup scheduled that day by G2KR and the Monterey Bay Sea Otters dive club, so check that out as well. More info on that here: www.facebook.com/events/7237657596288953.

One of the dive groups I belong to on Facebook recently posted the following question: How many dives do you have and how experienced do you feel? The answers ranged from just a few dives to over 1000, and almost everyone expressed that they still feel like they have things to learn!

As many of you know, I've done over 1600 dives and this month I will have completed 31 years of diving! I have been diving all over the world and have experienced cold water, warm water, currents, great viz, bad viz, and a huge variety of sea life, from giant whale sharks and mantas to tiny nudibranchs and shrimp. I feel comfortable in the water and confident in my skills, whether beach diving, boat diving, or diving from my kayak. I feel pretty experienced for the conditions I have encountered, but I still know I have more to learn.

I'm 62 now, and while I do work out and try to stay strong and in shape, I realize there are things that are harder for me now than they were 30 years ago. But that's what's so great about diving! There's always a buddy to lend a hand. I'm so happy and thankful to be a part of the diving community!

As they say, a good diver is always learning!

And a final note: Happy 60th Birthday San Jose Flipper Dippers!

Stay safe and let's go diving! – Barbara



San Jose Flipper Dippers

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o Position Open o

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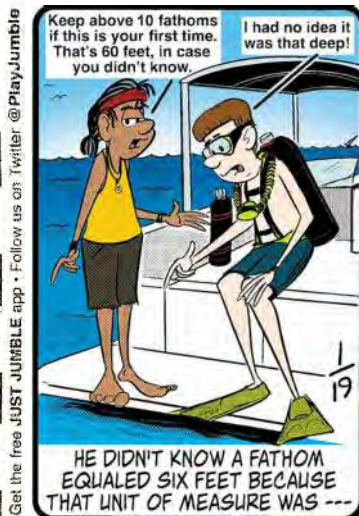
★ Jumble for Diving Dippers ★

JUMBLE

By David Hoyt & Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

GTIFH
 O O O O
 GUDHO
 O O O O
 SETVIN
 O O O O
 EQAPOU
 O O O O
 O O O O O O O O O O O O O O



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

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Answers on Page 6

RAFFLE NEWS

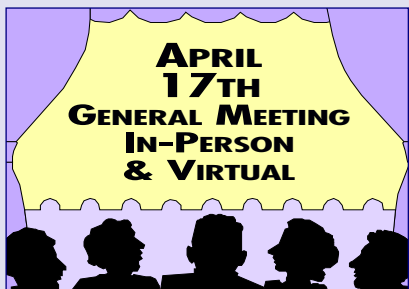
Stay tuned for an upcoming Christmas in July BBQ and picnic with another great Raffle! ★

MEMBERSHIP

Ken Agur

Welcome to our newest member! **Jeff Roland**, left in photo, was voted into the Club at the March general meeting and is a happy Dipper!

Happy Birthday! This Dipper is completing his annual trip around the Sun this month: **Jim Rezowalli**. ★



We'll be having our in-person General Meeting this month. If you come please bring a refreshment to share! We'll have a live Skype connection for those who still prefer to meet virtually. ★

Death Valley Anyone?

Dippers **Taylor Sullivan**, **Barbara Davis** and **Abby Golden Wilson**, along with husband **Ben** (AKA *Mr. Abby*), and Taylor's boyfriend **Zach** got together and spent a few days in Death Valley, March 22-25, to check out Lake Manly, a temporary lake that shows up in years of sufficient rainfall, amongst other sights. They had a great time checking out the salt flats and the amazing geology in the park. Badwater Basin is the lowest elevation in North America at 282-feet below sea level! Hmmm... you can set your dive computer for higher altitudes, but can you set it for negative altitudes? ★



Above, Cheating Death (Valley) again? From left: Ben, Abby, Barbara, Zach and Taylor.

Below, Badwater Basin 282 feet below sea level are Mr. Abby and Abby.



Dippers celebrated Howard Chien's birthday at the March General Meeting!



"I know you want to take a bath, dear, but your dad couldn't wait to try out his new scuba gear."

You're a dive club? Why yes, yes we are.

We had great day and turnout for the Club's March S3 dive at south Monastery Beach

Photos: Jackie Gardner



Apple Watch Warning

Undercurrent

A Port Barrington (IL) diver who has recovered more than 200 Apple watches from Indiana's Chain O' Lakes warns Apple watch owners to stay out of the water if their watches have the original band. Derick Langos says that those with sports bands do not stay on in the water. Langos also frequently finds smartphones, rings, jewelry and prescription glasses underwater. 🌟

Should you Insure Old Scuba Gear?

Undercurrent

It's not uncommon for divers with equipment insurance to find out that their insurer will pay them little money, if any, because their equipment is too old. DAN insurance, underwritten by H2O, has changed how they determine what to reimburse you and says it will be the lesser of (1) the cost of reasonably restoring that property to its condition immediately before loss or damage or (2) the cost of replacing that property with substantially identical property.

How does property get valued? The best way is for you to find advertised sales of an identical or similar item of the same age from a dependable source (your dive shop, eBay, or other online sources). Better yet, see if you can find proof of sale of such an item.

If one can't come up with evidence of the product's current value (so repair or replacement can be compared), the insurance company may turn to a depreciation schedule. According to The Curley Adjustment Bureau, a consultant to the insurance industry on value, cameras have a 14-year life, while scuba gear has a 10-year life. While insurers may use different schedules, this provides a benchmark for estimating your gear's value.

When you file a claim, there is often a deductible, reducing your reimbursement. DAN insurance deductibles range from \$100-\$250.

If you decide to apply for insurance, don't value your five-year-old gear at the price you paid because you'll be paying for a value that won't hold for the insurance company. If you paid \$5,000 for your gear five years ago and seek that coverage, the price is \$213. But, it's perhaps worth half that today, so insure it at \$2500 and pay \$106. 🌟



Dippers Celebrate 60 Years!

The **San Jose Flipper Dippers**, one of the oldest and most active dive clubs in Northern California, began its odyssey back in 1964 with a small group of SCUBA instructors and other devoted divers dedicated to the promotion of safety and diver training. By 1965 the Club had a "Charter Member" list of 46 divers strong. The first edition of this newsletter was published in April 1965 and consisted of two pages! Happy Birthday Flipper Dippers!



This year's anniversary salutes those who have been Club members for:

30 or more consecutive years

Carl Tuttle '72

Barbara Zwiig '85

Mike Chalup '88

Kelly Drake '88

Don Mercado '88

Barbara Davis '93

20 or more consecutive years

Dennis Nasont '98

10 or more consecutive years

Jim Rezowalli '05

John Snyder '07

Howard Timoney '07

Tom Gardner '09

Jackie Gardner '11



Experts disclose new details about 300-year-old shipwreck

The Colombian government said Thursday it will try to raise objects from the 1708 shipwreck of the galleon San Jose, which is believed to contain a cargo worth billions of dollars. The 300-year-old wreck, often called the “holy grail of shipwrecks,” has been controversial, because it is both an archaeological and economic treasure.

Culture Minister Juan David Correa said the first attempts will be made between April and May, depending on ocean conditions in the Caribbean. Correa pledged it would be a scientific expedition. “This is an archaeological wreck, not a treasure,” Correa said following a meeting with President Gustavo Petro. “This is an opportunity for us to become a country at the forefront of underwater archaeological research.”

But the ship is believed to hold 11 million gold and silver coins, emeralds and other precious cargo from Spanish-controlled colonies, which could be worth billions of dollars if ever recovered. Correa said the material extracted from the wreck, probably by robotic or submersible craft, would be taken aboard a navy ship for analysis. Based on the results, a second effort might be scheduled.

The San Jose galleon sank in battle with British ships more than 300 years ago. It was located in 2015 but has been mired in legal and diplomatic disputes. In 2018, the Colombian government abandoned plans to excavate the wreck, amid disputes with a private firm that claims some salvage rights based on a 1980s agreement with Colombian government. In 2018, the United Nations cultural agency called on Colombia not to commercially exploit the wreck.

A UNESCO experts’ body protecting underwater cultural heritage sent a letter to Colombia expressing

concern that recovering the treasure for sale rather than for its historical value “would cause the irretrievable loss of significant heritage.”

“Allowing the commercial exploitation of Colombia’s cultural heritage goes against the best scientific standards and international ethical principles as laid down especially in the UNESCO Underwater Cultural Heritage Convention,” the letter said. Colombia has not signed the U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea, which would subject it to international standards and require it to inform UNESCO of its plans for the wreck.

The wreck was discovered three years ago with the help of an international team of experts and autonomous underwater vehicles, and its

exact location is a state secret. The ship sank somewhere in the wide area off Colombia’s Baru peninsula, south of Cartagena, in the Caribbean Sea. The ship has been the subject of a legal battle in the U.S., Colombia and Spain over who owns the rights to the sunken treasure.

The three-decked San Jose was reportedly 150 feet (45 meters) long, with a beam of 45

feet (14 meters) and armed with 64 guns. Colombia has said that researchers found bronze cannons that are in good condition, along with ceramic and porcelain vases and personal weapons. The researchers say that the specifications of the cannons leave no doubt that the wreck is that of the San Jose. ★



Jumble Answers:

- GTFH -> FIGHT
- GUDHO -> DOUGH
- SETVIN -> INVEST
- EQAPOU -> OPAQUE

He didn't know a fathom equaled six feet because that unit of measure was —

• FHTDHOIESTOPU -> OUT OF HIS DEPTH

DIVE & ACTIVITY CALENDAR

SIM UPADHYAYULA

www.SJFLIPPERDIPPERS.COM

APRIL 2024

MONDAY APRIL 1

POINT LOBOS RESERVATIONS

On April 1st reservations become available for Diving at Point Lobos in May. Make your online reservation for Saturday, May 11 if you plan to dive. Contact **Carl Tuttle**, who is coordinating. Email: tut-comms@sbcglobal.net or text/phone: 408-829-3660 and let him know if you made a reservation.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3

BUSINESS MEETING: 7:30 pm

The meeting will be held **virtually via Skype**. All members are invited to attend. Please email **Carl Tuttle** if you need the link to join. Bring your own food, drinks, and internet connection and we'll discuss ideas for upcoming dives and events.

SATURDAY APRIL 6

15th ANNUAL U/W EASTER EGG HUNT

Coordinator: **Tom Gardner**, tomandjackieus@yahoo.com, 408-274-9447. **Meet at 8:00 AM** at Del Monte Beach and dive for Easter Eggs! Eggs will be dropped in depths of 25 to 40 feet. Contestants will line up on the beach and when the whistle blows, the race is on! The divers that return with the highest totals win great prizes. Wharf parking is

available or park in the parking lot. Meet on the wharf next to the beach for a pre-hunt briefing. Bring 2 tanks and plan on making a 2nd dive under the wharf. Please RSVP!

SATURDAY, APRIL 13 SECOND SATURDAY SCUBA (S3) BEACH DIVE: LOCATION TBD

Join the Flipper Dippers for this

GENERAL MEETING WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17

The **in-person General Meeting** will be held at **7:30 PM** at the Knights of Columbus Santa Maria Hall 2211 Shamrock Dr., Campbell.

The **virtual meeting** will continue to be hosted via Skype.

Please contact **Carl Tuttle** for more details on the in-person meeting or a link to the virtual Skype meeting.

Celebrate 60 Years of the San Jose Flipper Dippers!

Entertainment:

• **Social Hour**



month's S3 dive coordinated by **Sim Upadhyayula**. Text: 669 286 9796 or email: toytacous@yahoo.com if interested and to be notified of developments.

SATURDAY, APRIL 20 NO SCHEDULED DIVE

SUNDAY APRIL 28

FOURTH SUNDAY CYCLE (FSC)

Join us for our monthly Fourth Sunday Cycle this time led by **Cedric Wright**. Plan is to ride on Canada Road in Woodside. Meeting location is TBD. Possible picnic lunch at Plugas Water Temple or a local restaurant. Remember to bring a helmet, some water, and a snack. Please RSVP at cedricwright@comcast.net, 408-203-9231 to receive final details and any last minute updates!

UPCOMING IN MAY

- 01 Business Meeting
- 11 Second Saturday Scuba – Pt. Lobos
- 15 **General Meeting**
- 20 – 27 Memorial Day Weekend – Henry Cowell Sate Park



15th Annual U/W Easter Egg Hunt – April 6th A First Saturday Scuba

Do you feel lucky? ... Well, do you? Yep, count me in!

On April 6, Dippers will be hustling to find eggs distrib-

uted at random for this year's 15th Annual Underwater Easter Egg Hunt, at Del Monte Beach. Divers will be hustling to find 36 (or more!) eggs, numbered 1 to 36. **This is a LOT of FUN!**

Last year divers searched the shallow waters for the elusive eggs and out of 48 tossed into the depths only 21 were found! So, it's time to brush the winter cobwebs off your dive gear and get in the water.

Gather enough eggs and win a prize! Divers that score the highest totals (from the numbers written on the eggs added together) win great prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. So be sure to sign up by contacting **Tom Gardner**, email: tomandjackieus@yahoo.com, phone: 408-274-9447. ★



Ready, set, GO! From left, Barbara, Carl, Cedric, Tom, Grace and Howard are ready to go during last year's hunt.

NOTE: All certified divers are encouraged to attend San Jose Flipper Dippers' dives.

Non-Club members will be required to show proof of certification to the dive coordinator prior to entering the water with our group.

Please sign up for dives at the General Meeting or call the coordinator. This is needed in case of cancellation or changes.



San Jose Flipper Dippers

c/o 1108 Sunset Landing
Rio Vista, CA 94571-5148



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FIRST CLASS MAIL

2024 COMING EVENTS

April 1	Pt. Lobos Reservations for May 11
Apr 3	Business Meeting
Apr 6	U/W Easter Egg Hunt
Apr 13	Second Saturday SCUBA
Apr 17	🐡 General Meeting - SJFD 60 Years Old
Apr 28	Fourth Sunday Cycle (FSC)
May 1	Business Meeting
May 11	Second Saturday SCUBA Pt. Lobos
May 15	🐡 General Meeting
May 20-27	Memorial Day Week - Henry Cowell SP
May 26	Fourth Sunday Cycle (FSC)
June 7	Business Meeting
June 10	Second Saturday SCUBA - Boat Dive
June 21	🐡 General Meeting
June 25	Fourth Sunday Cycle (FSC)

*Are you looking for someone
to dive with?*

The San Jose Flipper Dippers Dive Club is a great way to meet divers who are always having fun times. Come join us!



Watch This Space - Much More To Come!
See the Club's Website for the full Calendar



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