

NEWSLETTER



San Jose Flipper Dippers

JANUARY 2024

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

New Board takes over for 2024

Congratulations to our new 2024 Board! Above from top right:

- Barbara Davis (Pres.), Sim Upadhyayula (Vice Pres.), Tom Gardner (Treas.), Grace Chi (Sec.) and Howard Chien (Sgt.-at-Arms).



We're sure our Club officers will be organizing a great year of diving and other activities that everyone will enjoy. Join in on the virtual Planning Meeting on January 24 or sign up to lead a dive or activity! ☆



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Mother Nature had other plans . . .

The Flipper Dippers' scheduled Pt. Lobos dive for Wednesday, December 27, was canceled due to unsafe conditions with the swell building to 11-feet by the morning. After monitoring the National Weather Service, the Monterey Bay NOAA Buoy, the Coastal Data Information Program (CDIP) and the Windy App, coordinator Carl Tuttle sent out an email to the 14 individuals who were on the list canceling the dive. A large storm was generating 30-foot swells that were headed towards the coast! Unfortunately reservations for diving Pt. Lobos are non-refundable unless the whole park is closed - which it was on Thursday. But as his wife, Leigh, told him, "It's better to loose the \$20 than loose your life!" A Thursday screen capture (above) from the webcam on the 18th green at Pebble Beach Golf Links, shows it was the right call to make. Although it was a disappointment, it's Safety First! Another day, another dive. See more on page 5. ☆

AWARDS BANQUET Mark Your Calendars: Saturday, February 3, 2024

The Flipper Dippers' Annual Awards Banquet is back and is going to be on Saturday evening, February 3rd, 2024. The banquet will be held at Rosy's at the Beach, in Morgan Hill. Don't miss this fun-filled evening!



See the details on page 7. ☆

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Hi All!

Happy New Year! I'm looking forward to some great diving in 2024! Let's make sure our gear and ourselves stay in great shape and let's continue our club's great safety record. We look after ourselves and our buddies and we take the time to mentor our new and prospective members.

We had a great hybrid general meeting on December 20th! We had an abundance of yummy goodies and a great raffle. We also elected our 2024 Club Officers.

As the new board takes over this month, I want to thank outgoing Vice President **Andrew Grice** for serving the Dippers so well during his term. Also happy to say thanks to our returning officers: Treasurer **Tom Gardner**, Secretary **Grace Chi** and Sergeant-at-Arms **Howard Chien**. Joining us this year as our new Vice President is **Sim Upadhyayula**. Sim has only been diving since February 2023, but he's been a very enthusiastic and active diver and we're happy to have him planning our club dives this year.

As for upcoming activities, please note that we'll be moving the January business meeting to Wednesday, January 10th. And on Wednesday, January 24th, we have our virtual Annual Planning Meeting to plan the Club's calendar for the coming year. Everyone is encouraged to join in and share their ideas for dives and other Club events. If you can't join in feel free to email the board with any suggestions you might have for diving and other activities.

Also coming up we are bringing back the Annual Awards Banquet on Saturday, February 3rd. The Awards Banquet lets us recognize everyone who pitched in and helped at club events in 2023 and it's sure to be a lot of fun!

I look forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming meetings and events in 2024!

Everyone keep safe and let's go diving!

– Barbara



San Jose Flipper Dippers

www.SJFlipperDippers.com

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CLUB OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Barbara Davis 408-656-6390

VICE PRESIDENT

Sim Upadhyayula 408-608-5009

SECRETARY

Grace Chi 858-337-2674

TREASURER

Tom Gardner 408-274-9447

SERGEANT AT ARMS

Howard Chien 408-410-0325

CLUB COMMITTEES

AWARDS AND FINES

o Position Open o

MEMBERSHIP

Ken Agur 408-242-3779

NEWSLETTER & WEBSITE

Carl Tuttle 408-829-3660
email tutcomms@sbcglobal.net

PHOTOGRAPHY

Mike Chalup 408-744-1868

RAFFLE

o Position Open o

REFRESHMENTS

o Position Open o

STAR ACHIEVEMENT

Jackie Gardner 408-274-9447

TROPHY COMPETITION

John Snyder 408-378-4963



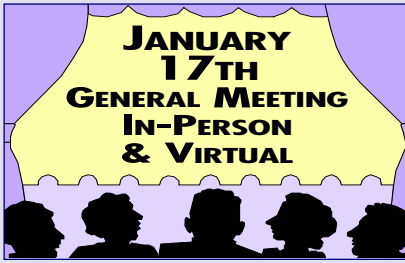
Annual Club Planning Meeting

Our annual Club Planning Meeting for 2024 has been scheduled for a virtual meeting on **Wednesday, January 24**, at 7:30 PM.

This is where the decisions are made on dates for major Club events and activities, and the master calendar for the year is set. **All new 2024 Club officers AND committee heads should plan to attend.**

Any members interested in being involved in planning Club dives and activities are encouraged to join us. Everyone please enjoy your appetizer-type dish along with something to drink.

The meeting will be held virtually and will begin promptly at 7:30pm. Email Carl Tuttle (tutcomms@sbcglobal.net) for the Skype link to the meeting, if you need it, and a copy of the preliminary calendar. The final calendar will be posted on the Club's Website. ★



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. ★

RAFFLE NEWS

We had a great turnout for the December General Meeting, both in-person and virtually. It was a good time for all to participate in our Annual Christmas Raffle. Without fail, the Christmas tree showed up with the three envelopes containing cash! Making it challenging, none of the envelopes were marked with how much cash was inside. As tickets were drawn

from the mixing drum (spinning hamster ball) lots of excitement filled the hall. It was all luck as the \$50 cash was scored by **Howard Chein, Ophelia Drake** found the envelope with \$30 cash and **Frances Lee** took home \$20 cash. Thanks go to **Jackie Gardner** for handling the raffle ticket sales.

Lots of interesting items were brought to the raffle along with an abundance of snacks, great food and liquid libations. BIG FUN! ★

MEMBERSHIP

Ken Agur

We're a dive club and we're diving! If you're looking for a dive buddy look no further. See the Club's website for more information on becoming a member (Membership Requirements). We'd love for you to join us!

Happy Birthday New Year Babies!

Someone was doing the Hokey Pokey during the month of August so **Denis Nasont** is this month's birthday winner. ★



Howard's back in the water!

After dealing with health issues, which kept him out of the water for some time, **Howard Timoney** went diving at the Breakwater with **Barbara Davis** in December. Howard's report:

- EZ entries and exits
- 15' visibility
- 50 something for water temp
- I got cold
- Other than that it was good
- Once you know how, you don't forget
- Just like falling off a bicycle!



STAR ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM AWARD REQUIREMENTS

Jackie Gardner

Ever notice some Club members with Gold Stars on the back of their jackets? Here's how to get yours! These achievements may be accomplished and recorded in any order. Stars will be awarded in numerical order upon completion of all previous requirements. It is the Club member's responsibility to make sure these accomplishments are recorded with the Star Achievement Program Chairperson. Chances are, you already qualify for your first or second 'Star' and don't know it. Review the list below – and you're on your way! Then contact **Jackie Gardner**, phone: 408-274-9447, email: tommandjackieus@yahoo.com, and start your collection stars.

1st STAR AWARD ★

1. Show SCUBA certification from a nationally recognized certification agency.
2. Log ten (10) dives with the Club.
3. Dive to 60 feet in the ocean on a Club dive.

2nd STAR AWARD ★ ★

1. Log 20 total dives (not necessarily Club dives).
2. Have current CPR AND First Aid certification.
3. Coordinate two (2) scheduled Club dives.
4. Assist at two (2) scheduled Club activities.
5. Prove ability to use a compass by showing proof of: a) Navigation Specialty, OR b) Advanced Diver certification.

3rd STAR AWARD ★ ★ ★

1. Obtain a Scuba Rescue course certification from a nationally recognized certification agency.
2. Complete one (1) year as an active skin and SCUBA diver AND Club member.
3. Complete at least one (1) of the following: a) assist at four (4) club activities, b) coordinate four (4) scheduled Club dives, OR c) dive with four (4) prospective Club members.
4. Have current CPR AND First Aid certification.
5. Show certification of one (1) of the following courses: a) O2 Provider, b) Nitrox, OR c) Advanced Diver.

4th STAR AWARD ★ ★ ★ ★

1. Complete two (2) years as an active skin and SCUBA diver AND Club member.
2. Log at least two (2) night dives.
3. Serve as a Club Committee Chair, OR participate in at least two (2) different ocean/dive-related public services.
4. Have current CPR, First Aid AND Scuba Rescue certification.
5. Coordinate the following scheduled Club dives: a) one (1) boat dive, b) ~~one (1) abalone dive~~, AND c) one (1) night dive.
6. Dive with at least six (6) prospective Club members.

5th STAR AWARD ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

1. Successfully complete all previous requirements.
2. Complete three (3) years as an active skin and SCUBA diver AND Club member.
3. Have current CPR, First Aid AND Scuba Rescue certification.
4. Be a nationally certified: a) SCUBA Instructor, b) Assistant Instructor, c) Dive Master, d) Master Scuba Diver, OR e) serve one (1) year as a Club Officer.

December Christmas General Meeting Raffle Winners!



Howard didn't want the \$50 cash?



Sim is a Winner!



Frances Lee scored the \$20 Cash



Tom Gardner is not sure if he wanted the scented candle



Ophelia Drake won \$30 cash



Howard Chien, Jackie Gardner, Frances Lee

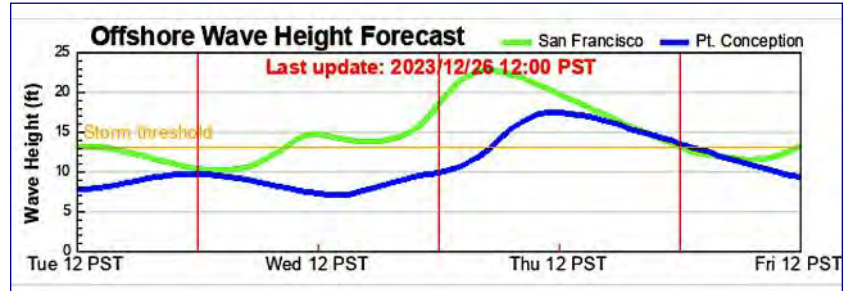
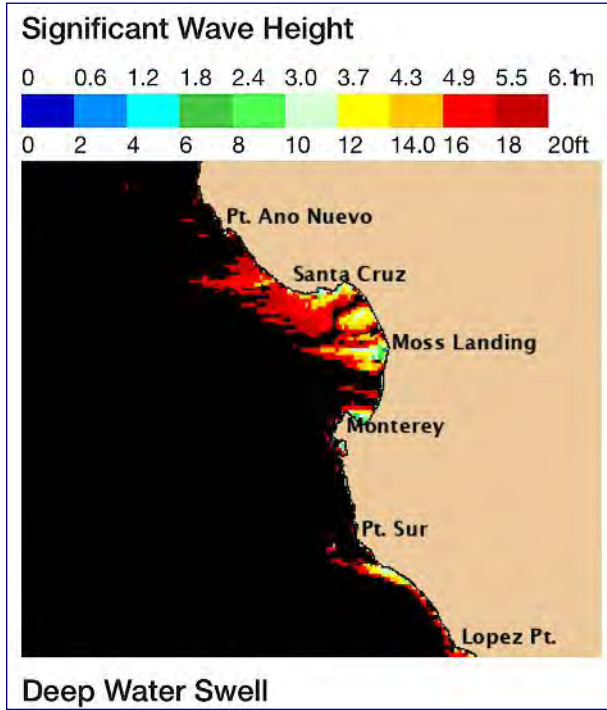


Pick a ticket Howard!
Pick a ticket!

December swell cancels Pt. Lobos dive

The ocean was not very inviting for the Club's dive on December 27th. Images from a number of websites showing the waves pounding the Monterey coast making for unsafe

diving. The swell continued thru the weekend and into the new year. Significant wave heights are off the chart and crashing waves at the 18th green at Pebble Beach – with Still Water cove in the background wasn't so still over a number of days. 🌊



Q Cannery Point, Carmel Point

WIND 14
SWELL 18ft, 16s

Whalers Cove

Whalers Cabin and Whaling Station Museum

57°
Okt

WEDNESDAY 27 THURSDAY 28

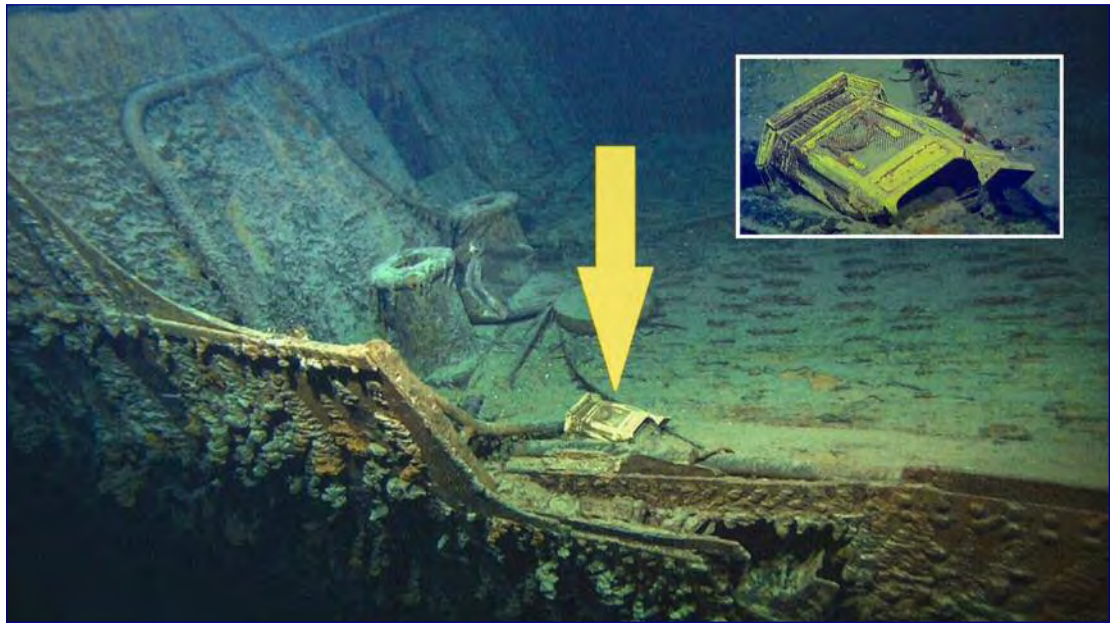
☉ 3	16	19	22	1	4	7	10	13	16	19
☁	☁	☁	☁	☁	☁	☁	☁	☁	☁	☁
°F	59°	59°	57°	55°	55°	53°	59°	60°	58°	55°
kt	18	16	14	7	3	4	3	1	3	3
ft	9	10	10	10	11	13	16	18	18	17
ft	8	10	10	10	12	14	16	18	18	17

More Titanic Artifacts

Among the more interesting and seemingly out of place artifacts to be found at Titanic's wreck site is this ornate electric cabin heater, which today rests tucked in amongst deck equipment in the port side corner of the ship's forward well deck.

Five hundred electric heaters in addition to the ship's central steam heat kept Titanic's passengers well regulated in their own staterooms, lavatories being supplied with 750 watt models while staterooms themselves were generally furnished with models of 1,000 watts.

This 2,000 watt example was supplied only to a few choice rooms, including one installed in Captain Smith's private sitting room, from which this heater is thought most likely to have originated (see comments for diagram). It has been suggested that the force of impact with the sea floor



by the bow section of the vessel and the corresponding onrush of seawater which destroyed much of the ship's bridge likely plucked this sturdy artifact from its mounting on the starboard side Boat Deck, depositing the heater in its present position three decks below. ★

Oceanographic Magazine Photographer of the Year

The much-anticipated winners of the Ocean Photographer of the Year 2023 have been revealed. This year's winning photographs reveal the full spectrum of ocean life through a wealth of drone, land and underwater images. They include a stunning blackwater shot, a skilful anemone portrait, as well as a shocking image of a whale in peril. A total of nine categories were judged, with the overall winner crowned the Ocean Photographer of the Year 2023.

Ocean Conservation Photographer (Hope): Sylvie Ayer, Florida

A manatee enjoys the crystal-clear waters of the Homosassa River. Photographer Sylvie Ayer explains: "The manatee on the picture came close to look at me and was suddenly perfectly positioned in front of the sun's rays. I hope this photo helps raise awareness of the need to protect these mammals. In Florida several hundred manatees die annually because there isn't enough food due to river pollution."



Ocean Wildlife Photographer: Jack Stefan Pokoj, Phillipine

A lizardfish's open mouth reveals its last meal. "It seemed like the lizardfish was trying to swallow the other fish with its tail first before it got stuck" remembers photographer Jack Stefan Pokoj. "Both fish looked to be in some distress. The behaviour was unusual as lizardfish are ambush predators and swim away if a diver gets too close. This one kept its mouth open like it was trying to allow the fish inside its mouth to escape." ★



DIVE & ACTIVITY CALENDAR

SIM UPADHYAYULA

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JANUARY 2024

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3
BUSINESS MEETING: Moved to
Wednesday, January 10

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6
NO SCHEDULED DIVE

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10
BUSINESS MEETING: 7:30pm
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, JANUARY 13
SECOND SATURDAY SCUBA (S3)
BEACH DIVE: LOCATION TBD
Coordinator: **Sim Upadhyayula**,
(email: toytacous@yahoo.com or
text/phone: 408-608-5009). Join the
Flipper Dippers for this month's
Second Saturday Scuba! Be sure to
watch your email for an update on
a location and coordinator.

GENERAL MEETING WEDNESDAY, JAN 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 59 Years of the San Jose Flipper Dippers!

Entertainment:

• **Social Hour**



SATURDAY, JANUARY 20
NO SCHEDULED DIVE

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24
ANNUAL PLANNING MEETING
Annual meeting to plan the Club's calendar for the coming year. Meeting will be held **virtually** via the Skype link used for business and general meetings. You are encouraged to join in and share your ideas for dives and other Club events. All new and continuing officers and committee heads should plan to attend. The meeting will be held virtually and will begin promptly at 7:30pm. Please contact **Carl Tuttle** if you need the link and a copy of the 2024 preliminary calendar

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27
NO SCHEDULED DIVE

UPCOMING IN FEBRUARY

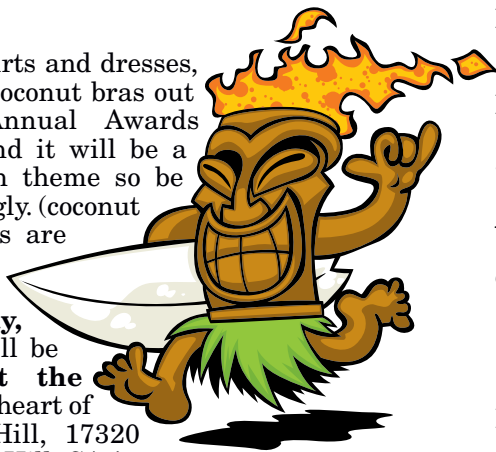
03 Awards Banquet
07 Business Meeting
10 Second Saturday SCUBA
21 **General Meeting**



Aloha Theme for Awards Banquet

Get those Aloha shirts and dresses, grass skirts and coconut bras out of storage! Our Annual Awards Banquet is BACK and it will be a Hawaiian/ Polynesian theme so be sure to dress accordingly. (coconut bras and grass skirts are optional.) The banquet will be on the evening of **Saturday, February 3rd**. It will be held at **Rosy's at the Beach**, located in the heart of downtown Morgan Hill, 17320 Monterey Rd, Morgan Hill, CA.*

The emphasis of the Awards Banquet is recognizing the outstanding efforts of Club members during the past number of years including Club Officers, Committee Heads, and others who put forth much effort to make Club dives and events a success. We may even present some long-time members with their 10 or 20 year membership pins. As in past years, the Club is subsidizing the cost of the Banquet. **Tickets this year are prix fixe on meal selection at \$45.00.**



Entrée Choices:

- **Shrimp Louie** - Avocado, Cucumber, Red Onion, Hard Boiled Egg, Mixed Greens, Louie Dressing
- **Chicken Penne Pasta** - Chicken Breast, Mushrooms, Tomato, Artichoke Hearts, Basil, Spinach, Roasted Garlic Broth
- **Salmon Tacos** - Corn tortillas, coleslaw, fresh salsa, avocado. Served with rice and black beans

All Dinners Include:

- Beach House Wedge Salad with tomato, red onion, cucumber, seasoned croutons
- Dessert: Chocolate Brownie with Vanilla Ice Cream
- Wine With Dinner
- \$12 BYOB Corkage fee

No-host bar starts at 5:00 PM and dinner at 6:00 PM. Hard and soft drinks are available at the restaurant bar. Wine is included with dinner.

Carl Tuttle will have tickets on sale at the January General Meeting. Or you can contact Carl (408-829-3660; tutcomms@sbcglobal.net) to purchase your tickets. Don't miss this fun-filled evening! ★

* There are a number of hotels in Morgan Hill to stay at after the banquet to avoid a late drive home. ★

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

Jan 10	Business Meeting
Jan 13	Second Saturday SCUBA
Jan 17	🐡 General Meeting
Jan 24	Annual Planning Meeting
Feb 3	Awards Banquet
Feb 7	Business Meeting
Feb 10	Second Saturday SCUBA
Feb 21	🐡 General Meeting
Feb 26	Labor Day Weekend Reservations (Aug 26-Sept 2, 2024) Van Damme
March 6	Business Meeting
March 9	Second Saturday SCUBA
March 20	🐡 General Meeting

*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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