

NEWSLETTER



San Jose Flipper Dippers

SEPTEMBER
2024

GENERAL MEETINGS HELD
3RD WEDNESDAY
OF EACH MONTH
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Meet the Hawaiian bobtail squid

Monterey Bay Aquarium

Native to the Pacific Ocean, this species can be found in shallow coastal waters off Hawaii. It buries itself in sand or muddy areas near sea grass beds during the day – even gluing sand grains to its body to form camouflage – and emerges at night to feed.

Animal Type: Octopus & kin

Habitat: Coastal waters

Size: Up to 1.4 inches (3.5 cm) in mantle length

Diet: Crustaceans

Range: Pacific Ocean; shallow coastal waters off Hawaii

Relatives: Other squid, octopuses, cuttlefishes, and the chambered nautilus; Phylum: Mollusca; Class: Cephalopoda; Family: Sepiolidae

Natural history

This pear-shaped squid has an “invisibility cloak,” thanks to a symbiotic relationship with bioluminescent bacteria that live in its mantle in a special light organ.

When the squid leaves the safety of the seafloor to hunt at night, the bacteria hide the squid’s silhouette by matching the amount of light hitting the top of its mantle – making it virtually invisible in moonlit waters when viewed from below. In return, the small squid provides the bacteria with food (a sugar and amino acid solution).

The Hawaiian bobtail squid hatchling isn’t born with this bacteria; it secretes a mucus around its light organs to capture it. Less than a day after hatching, a juvenile is able to “disappear” from predators just like its elders.

Predators

The Hawaiian monk seal is a common predator of the Hawaiian bobtail squid.

Lifespan and reproduction

This squid lives for only three to 10 months, but grows quickly. It’s able to reproduce just two months after hatching and breeds only once. The female lays eggs on the underside of coral ledges in shallows and dies shortly thereafter.

It’s a diving family affair

The Flipper Dippers’ newest member **Eva Alexander** brought along her daughter, **Shelby**, to the August Second Saturday Scuba (S3) dive. The plan was to dive MacAbee beach as reports of conditions looked promising. The group entered the water in search of the MacAbee Pinnacle. See more info and photos from the day on page 6. ★



Relatives

The Hawaiian bobtail squid is a cephalopod — related to other squid, octopuses, cuttlefishes and the chambered nautilus.

Conservation

The population size of the Hawaiian bobtail squid is currently unknown, as are threats to this species. Human impact on the ocean is growing, but so is the knowledge that we all depend on a healthy global ocean. Working together, people can discover solutions to pollution, overfishing and other common threats to coastal marine habitats.

Cool facts

Each morning a squid vents 90 percent of its bioluminescent bacteria back into the seawater. The bacteria replenish during the day when the squid is buried in the sand. By evening, when it’s time to feed, the squid has a new crop of bacteria in its light organ that will help it evade predators.

Materials science experts in the U.S. Air Force have studied the symbiotic relationship between the squid and its bacteria to see if the reflective qualities could be used to improve their aircraft camouflage. ★

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings Divers!



First, a big welcome to our latest new member, **Tom Earl**. Welcome, Tom!

August was a fun month for the Dippers, starting off with our usual Second Saturday SCUBA dive at MacAbee Beach, followed by a weekend in Lake Tahoe August 15 – 18 where Dippers enjoyed hiking, kayaking and a fun float trip down the Truckee River.

At the end of August and moving into September, we had our annual Labor Day weekend campout at Van Damme State Park. Some of the LORDS (Loyal Order of Retired Dippers) and other Dippers got an early start for a fun week of kayaking, hiking, biking, a birthday, and lots of great food and fun around the campfire!

Next up will be our Second Saturday SCUBA (S3) dive on Sept 14th. See the activities calendar on page 7 for information.

We're still in the planning stages for a Dipper trip to Bonaire in 2025, so check out the details in the August newsletter and my July 26th email and let me know if you can join us!

Club dues will be due in October. Some members also pay dues towards CenCal (Central California Council of Diving Clubs) and USofA (Underwater Society of America) to support their efforts on behalf of all divers in the areas of beach access along with conservation, and state and national legislation. These two organizations form an effective method for presenting the divers' interests state-wide and nationally. See page 3 for information.

If you have some free time, get involved!

Stay Safe Everyone and let's go diving! – Barbara

Anglerfish: looking for love in all the dark places

When male and female anglerfish mate, their reproductive process is highly unusual and adapted to the unique conditions of the deep sea. In this vast and dark environment, where encounters between potential mates are rare, the mating strategy of anglerfish involves a dramatic physiological transformation. The male anglerfish, upon finding a female, latches onto her with his teeth and becomes permanently attached.



Once the male anglerfish has attached to the female, a process of fusion begins. Over time, the male's body physically melds with the female's. His eyes and internal organs degenerate and vanish, leaving him with only the essential reproductive tissues. The male's circulatory system also merges with that of the female, creating a shared bloodstream. This fusion allows the male to rely entirely on the female for nourishment and oxygen, while he provides sperm for fertilization.

This extreme form of symbiosis ensures that both fish are able to reproduce successfully despite the sparse population densities in the deep sea. The male's complete integration into the female's body provides a continuous supply of sperm whenever needed, which is critical for successful reproduction in the challenging conditions of their environment. This adaptation highlights the unique and often extreme evolutionary strategies that species employ to thrive in the harshest habitats on Earth. ★



San Jose Flipper Dippers

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SEPTEMBER 18TH GENERAL MEETING IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL

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. ★

MEMBERSHIP

Ken Agur

We're a dive club and we're diving! If you're looking for a dive buddy look no further than the San Jose Flipper Dippers!

See the Club's website for more information on becoming a member: www.sjflipperdippers.com. (Membership Requirements)

Happy Birthday to You! These Dippers are completing their annual trip around the Sun this month: **Abby Golden Wilson, Frances Lee, Jeff Rowland** and **Taylor Sullivan**.

CLUB DUES DUE in October

It will soon be October again and time to pay your **annual dues**. Dues help cover a portion of the yearly room rental, website hosting, domain name registration, and newsletter printing and distribution. Each member will also be asked to sign an "Assumption of Risk Agreement" when dues are paid (the form is available on the Club's Website). If you can't make the in-person General Meeting please send a signed copy with your dues in the mail to: **Tom Gardner**, 2986 Everdale Court, San Jose, CA 95148. Contact Tom if you want to pay your dues in cash.

Club Dues this year are \$50.00 and \$10.00 per year to receive this Newsletter via the U.S. Postal Service. Or you can download it FREE each month from the Club's Website – in full color!

A summary of our annual dues is as follows:

CLUB DUES	\$ 50.00
Newsletter (U.S. Mail)	10.00
Total	\$ 60.00

CenCal (Central California Council of Diving Clubs) dues are **\$15.00** and USofA (Underwater Society of America) dues are **\$30.00**. (Pay online at: www.cencal.org). These optional dues support the many efforts of CenCal and USofA on behalf of all divers in the areas of beach access along with conservation and state and national legislation. These two organizations form an effective method for presenting the divers' interests state-wide and nationally.

CEN CAL \$15.00

USofA \$30.00

Remember, associate member (non-diving spouses of Dippers) dues are **\$5.00**. Associate members may attend Dipper functions at member prices, but have no voting privileges. Also, dues must be paid by November 30th or you will incur a late fee of \$5.00. **SO DON'T DELAY!** ★ ★

Great weekend at Lake Tahoe

Thanks to **Jim Rezowalli** for putting together the Lake Tahoe weekend in August. Dippers including **Gabi Estill Rezowalli, Howard Chien, Frances Lee, Abby Golden Wilson, Barbara Davis, Tristan Chutka, Taylor Sullivan** and **Carl Tuttle** swam in the lake, went on hikes, took out kayaks, went scuba diving, shared great meals and floated down the Truckee River. See what you missed? ★



Frances and Gabi enjoy the chairlift chair.



Tristan with his super-duper Bronco serving lunch.



Abby and Barbara with their folding kayaks and set up to dry.



The flotilla of Dippers were pulled down the Truckee River by Tristan on his kayak. Life is good!

Labor Day Week(end) at Van Damme State Park

Photos by Jackie & Carl

We had a great time and great weather for the Labor Day weekend! Hiking, biking on the State Park Road along Big River and kayaking up Big River.

On Saturday, the bike riders started at Noyo Headlands Park, in Ft. Bragg, and went along the coast on the Ka Kahleh Trail then the Noyo Headlands Park Bluff Trail up past Glass Beach along the Hall Road Trail – stopping for a picnic lunch at Laguna Point Beach – and up to MacKerricher State Beach and back!

Pot luck dinners on Friday and Saturday nights around the camp fire are always a fun time too.

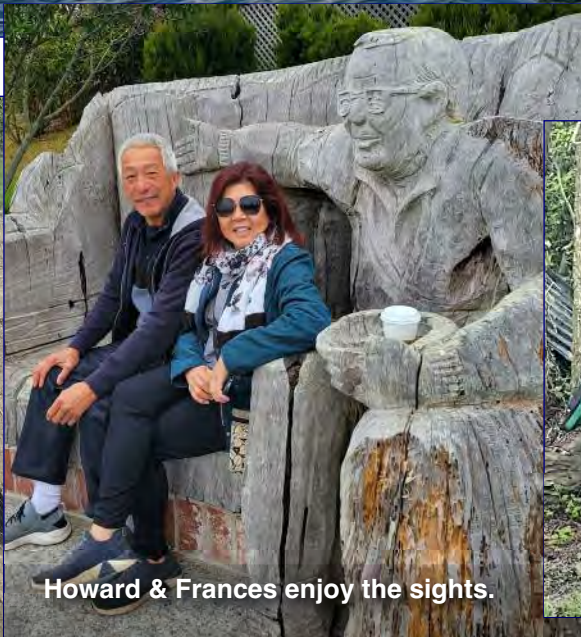
Dippers and friends joining in included **Tom and Jackie Gardner, Ginny Matulich, Barbara Davis, Howard Chien, Frances Lee, Carl Tuttle, Abby Golden and Ben 'Mr. Abby' Wilson, Rick 'I wanna be a Dipper' Bernal and Janice Hermon.** ★



Rick and Janice up a river . . . with paddles.



Howard "The Torch"



Howard & Frances enjoy the sights.



Yep, a Black Bear made a visit in the early morning hours while everyone was asleep.



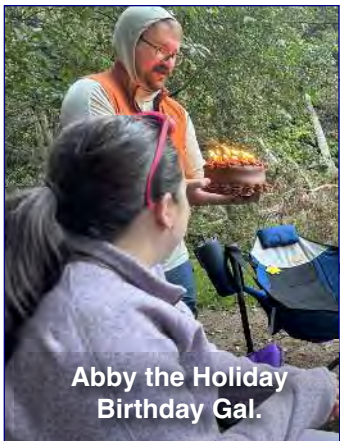
Cool Coast Cyclers looking for some Sun: Frances, Janice, Jackie, Carl, Rick, Ginny, Tom, and Howard.



Barbara in her fold-up yak.



Big River Yakers: Ginny, Barbara, Carl, Rick, Tom, and Jackie.



Abby the Holiday Birthday Gal.



Everyone had a Whale of a Good Time!



Is picking berries on State Property illegal?



Ginny wants a new coat! Sorry, no can do.



A park ranger showed a sea otter pelt to the campers.



Sea otter fur is super soft.

Did you miss this S3 dive? It was a sight to remember ...

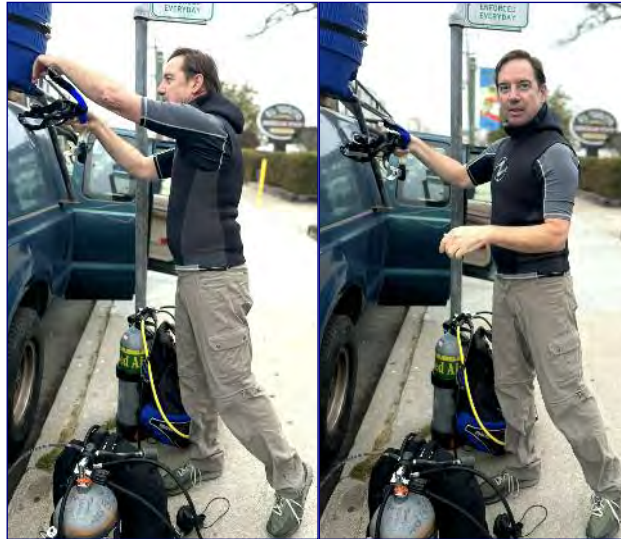
For the August S3 dive (Second Saturday Scuba), Dippers' coordinator **Sim Upadhyayula** called for the dive to be held at McAbee beach. Joining in were **Tristan Chutka**, **Carl Tuttle**, **Cedric Wright**, **Eva Alexander** and daughter **Shelby**, **Howard Timoney**, **Donovan Hill**,

and prospective member **Jim Milner** (all the way from San Francisco.) The group buddied up and entered the flat water. A bit murky at the top but there was hope it would clear up as everyone got deeper. But No-o-o-o-o. The vis was bad and a number of divers lost their buddy. Some gathered back at the surface and attempted to complete the dive. Eva, Shelby and Cedric regrouped and actually found the pinnacle. Others waited for them on the

beach while Howard and Donvamo discovered the trio on the surface in front of the El Torito restaurant. It was a long swim back so Howard swam out to make sure they didn't need assistance. As Howard says, nine divers went out and nine divers came back. For obvious reasons the second tank dive was canceled. Most in the group walked up to the Hula's Island Grill for lunch and to warm up! ★



Jim came down from San Francisco to dive with the Dippers!



CAUGHT IN THE ACT! Cedric needs to stop using all the hot water to rinse his mask off!



Howard is eager to go diving.



Cedric found the pinnacle! Did someone say "I need a new compass."?



How could anyone not see Eva underwater with those bright pink fins?



Oh Look! Tristan gets to dive with his new drysuit!

DIVE & ACTIVITY CALENDAR

SIM UPADHYAYULA

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SEPTEMBER 2024

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4 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, SEPTEMBER 7 NO SCHEDULED DIVE

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 14 SECOND SATURDAY SCUBA (S3) BEACH DIVE: N. MONASTERY

Join the Flipper Dippers for this month's S3 dive. Coordinator: **Carl Tuttle**, (408-829-3660, tutcomms@sbcglobal.net) contact if interested and to be notified of any changes.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 NO SCHEDULED DIVE INTERNATIONAL COASTAL CLEANUP DAY

GENERAL MEETING WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

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
- Dive Plans and More



SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 29 FOURTH SUNDAY CYCLE (FSC)

Join us for our monthly Fourth Sunday Cycle led by **Cedric Wright**. Plan is to ride on Canada Road in Woodside. Meeting location is Woodside Town Hall, 2955 Woodside Rd, Woodside, CA 94062. Lunch at Bucks Restaurant after the ride. Remember to bring a helmet, some water, and a snack. Please RSVP at cedricwright@comcast.net, 408-203-9231 for any last minute updates!

UPCOMING IN OCTOBER

- 2 Business Meeting
- 12 Second Saturday SCUBA
- 16 General Meeting
- 27 Fourth Sunday Cycle (FSC)



PARTY TIME!

If you haven't been paying attention, you're missing THE BIG PARTY!

San Carlos Beach, AKA the Breakwater, has been taken over by a bunch of Party Animals. Okay, so no one is quite sure why, but seals by the hundreds have decided this beach is the perfect spot to hang out.

The City of Monterey has closed access to all humans including scuba divers. So Open Water classes have had to find other access to the ocean. We'll have to wait and see when these visitors decide to move elsewhere. Stay tuned. Oh, and you can see some of them frolicking in the water via the Breakwater webcam: <https://adventuresbythesea.com/ocean-cam/> ★



The plural of octopus is...



☛ **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
Río Vista, CA 94571-5148



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FIRST CLASS MAIL

2024 COMING EVENTS

Sept 04	Business Meeting
Sept 14	Second Saturday SCUBA
Sept 18	🐡 General Meeting
Sept 21	Calif & Intl Coastal Cleanup Day
Sept 29	Fourth Sunday Cycle (FSC)
Oct 02	Business Meeting
Oct 12	Second Saturday SCUBA
Oct 16	🐡 General Meeting
Oct 27	Fourth Sunday Cycle (FSC)
Nov 1	Pt. Lobos Reservations for Friday, Dec 27
Nov 6	Business Meeting
Nov 9	Second Saturday SCUBA
Nov 19	Memorial Day Wknd Reservations TBD (May 19-26, 2025)
Nov 20	🐡 General Meeting - Nominations for 2025 Officers
Nov 24	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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