

CHANNEL ISLANDS DIVERS

NEXT CLUB MEETING:

MARCH 20, 2024

6:00PM Dinner

6:30PM Meeting

Black Bear Diner

2401 E. Harbor Blvd.

Ventura, CA 93001

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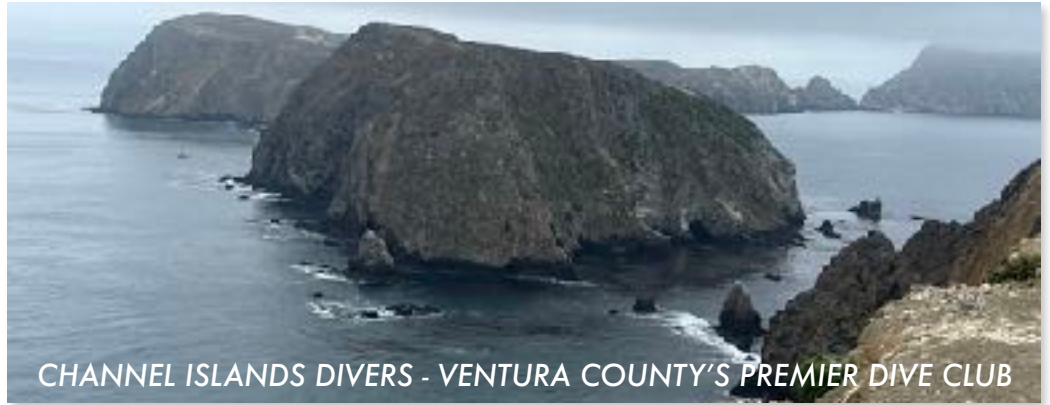
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Many Thanks to our Club Sponsors!

- ♦ **Channel Island Dive Adventures**
- ♦ **Maverick UnderSea Divers**
- ♦ **Island Packers**
- ♦ **Black Bear Diner**
- ♦ **PCH Scuba**



BOTTOM TIMES

By Mike Cunningham

Club President

Welcome to March, folks. You know what that means, right?

No, I'm not talking about college basketball, although there is that, too. And no, I'm not talking about Primary season in politics, no and again no! Way too many already doing that everywhere, all the time.

I'm talking about the really big news, that Channel Islands Divers shore diving starts in a few weeks. How many of you saw that coming?

Starting the Saturday after our general meeting we'll have our first of what I hope is many to come. If you were at last month's meeting or read this newsletter last month, then you've heard about it. Del Stewart and Mike Frabrasilio have paired up to start this activity. Once a month they'll pick a spot and announce it to all. They'll try to be as timely as the weather and conditions allow. What's left is for you to show up, sign a waiver, and get set up and dive. There is talk about going to lunch afterwards, on you, for those that wish to join in.

So look for that email or location in this fine newsletter, if they have it yet or better yet, show up at Black Bear Diner on March 20, the third Wednesday of the month, and get the full details straight from them.

continued on Page 2



OIL RIG DIVING

Are you looking for some outrageously fun and unique diving? Specifically, would you like the opportunity to dive the Olympic wreck and oil rigs off San Pedro? Then you are in luck because

Channel Islands Dive Adventures (CIDA)

can take you there in 2024!

Saturday, 05/24/2024 - Giant Stride with 6 divers; 3 dives, snacks, air = \$225

Friday, 07/26/2024 - SoCal Dive with 12 divers; 3 dives, snacks, air = \$230

Friday, 11/0/2024 - SoCal Dive with 23 divers, 3 dives, snack, air = \$230

Club members receive a 5% discount on all CIDA trips. To obtain discount code and additional email CIDA at: ken@channelislandsdiveadventures.com

channelislandsdiveadventures.com

This March means we made it a full year at our new meeting place, Black Bear Diner. Other than a few technical difficulties with the sound system and hopefully only once bill-paying thing, it's been a pretty good transition. The room is huge, it's somewhat centrally located, and best of all it's directly accessible by freeway. I mean, if you looked out their front door you can see the onramp going South. That's close by any standard. The food is pretty good too. It's not pizza, but still pretty good. I do miss having 7 TV's in the same room showing the same presentation and for awhile I didn't miss the logistics of setting up the club's sound system. Then they changed their speaker sound system to that karaoke speaker and things went south almost immediately. Now I'm back to setting up the club's sound system. After a few shots at it, I think I've got just what we need to do down pat.

Now we have normal back. Now things are beginning to take shape the way it should be. The way we are used to.

Come see for yourself, Wednesday, the 20th over at Black Bear Diner, located right off the 101 Freeway at 2401 Harbor Blvd., Ventura, CA 93001. We start arriving right before 6pm with the official meeting getting underway at 6:30.

Check out their website, look over the menu and save yourself a few minutes when you arrive. <https://blackbeardiner.com/location/ventura/>

See you all there.



MARCH Speakers:
Eric Taylor and Laura Forsyth
Exploring the Sea of Cortez, End to End



By Laura Forsyth
(to the tune of Gilligan's Island!)

Just sit right back and you'll hear a tale,
A tale of an awesome trip.
It started from a desert port
Aboard a happy ship.

The guides were mighty scuba guys,
The divers thrilled for sure.
Eric and Laura set sail that day
For their Sea of Cortez tour.



Photo: Eric and Laura



For two weeks in September of 2023, Eric Taylor and Laura Forsyth traveled the length of the Gulf of California, from Puerto Peñasco to Cabo San Lucas, aboard the Quino el Guardian.

Thirty-four dives along seven hundred miles of the magical peninsula and its incredible sea life. The biodiversity there is nothing short of spectacular.

Eric and Laura got up close and personal with sea lions, dolphins and whale sharks, saw eels galore (another green moray? yawn), played with the cutest pufferfish ever, witnessed the amazing sandfalls, and had an unforgettable experience. They'll show and tell all about diving in the Sea of Cortez.



NEW EVENT:

Spectre Boat Dive Trip



WHEN: Sunday, April 28, 2024 6:00am-4:00pm

WHERE: Dock D, Ventura Harbor

COST (members only): \$160 (regular price is \$195, plus credit card fees)

CLUB SPOTS AVAILABLE: 10

Once again, the *Spectre* is offering a great discount to club members. However, you may notice the club price is almost \$10 more than our previous trips. Well, yes, the general price has gone up from \$185 to \$195, plus credit card fees, which brings the final price to around \$200 for the public! Along with the general price increase, the price charged to the club has also gone up. However, In the club's case, the *Spectre* does not pass along any credit card fees to us, so the overall saving per each club member is approximately \$35 to \$40. That savings more than covers your club renewal fee for the year!

A signup sheet will be available at our club meetings of March 20 & April 17.

*****NOTE: To lock in your place for dive trips,
full payment must be made at the time of signup.*****

NOTE: Cancellations must be made by the club meeting of April 17. Cancellations after April 17 are not eligible for refund unless CID or the *Spectre* is able to sell your dive spot (which we are usually able to do!).



A word about our New Club Monthly Beach Dive from our Dive Coordinator, Sandy!

- ◆ Thanks to our webmaster, Del, and our librarian, Mike, we have a new, monthly club event: Announcing CID's regular beach dive, which will be held on the Saturday following the club's monthly meeting!
- ◆ That's right, we now have a monthly, one-tank dive (and lunch afterward) at a beach from Malibu up to Refugio. Our first of these regular beach dives will be held on Saturday, March 23, 8:00 AM, at Leo Carrillo State Beach* (north parking lot).
- ◆ *Obviously, the location of each beach dive depends on the weather, and we will announce the location at our monthly meeting, in an email blast, and in a posting on the club's Facebook page. For now, here is the calendar for the rest of the year for our monthly beach dives:

March, 23, - 8:00 AM, Leo Carrillo State Beach

April 20

May 18

June 22

July 20

August 24

September - no beach dive due to Refugio BBQ

October 19

November - no beach dive due to Catalina Trip

December 21

So, join Del and Mike each month at this regular event. There is no need to pre-register, **AND NON-MEMBERS ARE WELCOME** to attend the dive and lunch. Both members and non-members will be required to sign a CID Liability Waiver that will be available from Del and/or Mike at the dive location.

I do hope we will see you at our first, monthly beach dive on March 23. Even if you don't plan to dive, come on out to be shore-support, and then have a great lunch after the morning dive.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email me, Del or Mike.

Del: webmaster@channelislandsdivers.org

Mike: library@channelislandsdivers.org



Happy Diving!

Sandy Bickford

CID Dive Coordinator

dive@channelislandsdivers.org

channelislandsdivers.org

Scenes from CID's Winter Getaway

Dive Trip to Key Largo, Florida

By Sandy Bickford, Dive Coordinator

February 4-11, 2024

Day 1: Arrival to Bayside Inn, Key Largo, Florida. We had a "Welcome!" potluck planned, but it rained all day, and it was cold, so we decided to save the potluck for another day and have dinner at local restaurants.

Day 2: Our first day of diving, an afternoon trip to the eastern tip, Elbow Reef area of the Keys. We dropped anchor at the wooden remains of an old light house. We spent a good amount of the dive getting our weights correct, but there was a nice wreck below us.)



Photo: Del Stewart



Photo: Ken Kollwitz



Photo: Mike Frabasilio

Day 3: Some of our group made the 2.5-hour trip to Key West, with a stop in Islamorada to visit "Betsy." L-R: Eric, Laura, Steve Lancaster



Day 3 & 4 – Others of us made our way to State or National Parks in the area, or to the History of Diving Museum on Islamorada.



Day 4: There are many conservation groups in the Florida Keys, and we were lucky enough to be invited to the facilities of Reef Environmental Education Foundation (REEF) where we heard a lecture about the organization's efforts to eradicate the invasive lionfish.



L-R: Del, Ken, Tessie, Mike, Eric, Laura, Sammy, Rob, Lina, Sandy, Teri, Joe. (Not shown: Steve, Pattis, Mark)



**THE MAN,
BRET NEIDENS!**
Not only did Bret feed us, but he met us at the boat after every dive. He also provided a great deal of help in the planning of our Key Largo trip. We couldn't have done it without you, Bret!

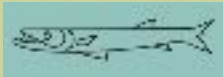


Photo: Del Stewart

Day 4, 6:30pm: A beautiful evening and dinner on Bret's upper-level lanai.

Day 5: Back to diving! The marine conditions were better, but there were still large swells that tested our skills getting on and off the boat. Once underwater, the conditions were good, with 75-degree temperature, nearly unlimited visibility, lots of critters, and little-to-no surge at 40 feet. However, topside the boat was really rocking!

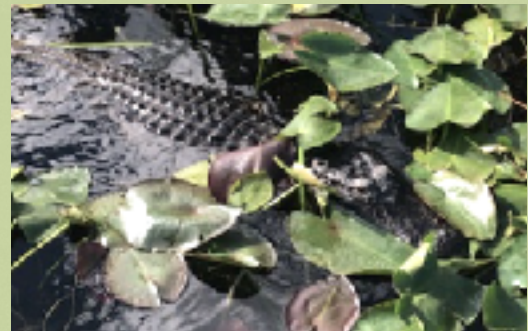


Day 5, evening: After our morning dives, we all headed to Islamorada for a kayak tour among the mangroves with Keys Paddleboards & Kayaks.



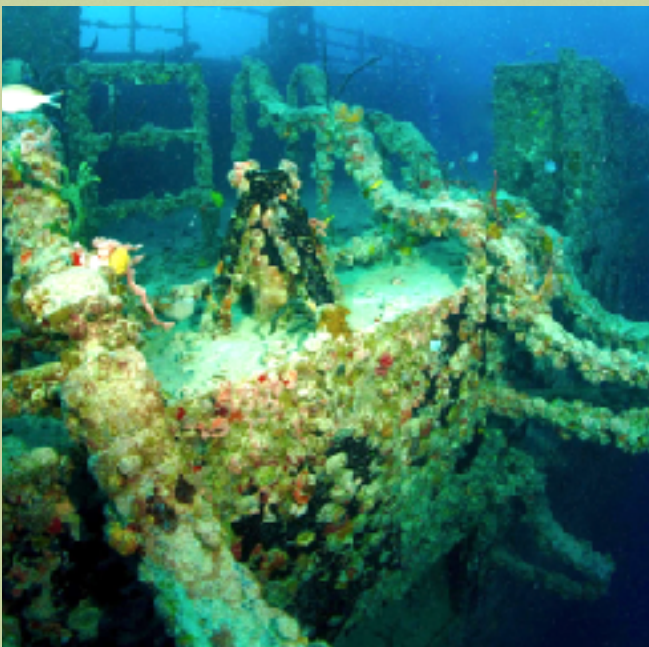
Photo: Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary

An excellent dive on the *City of Washington* ship wreck from 1917.

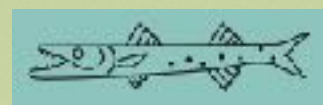


This adult female gator, Bertha, is responsible for raising several generations of alligators in the Everglades!!

Photo: Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary



Day 6: Was a full day of diving, with marine conditions still being quite rough, but beautiful weather on land. Most of the group headed out for the morning dives back at Elbow Reef. The afternoon dive was an **advanced dive only**, to the wreck of the *USS Spiegel Grove*, which is located 6 miles off the coast of Key Largo and sits at a depth of 60 to 140 ft.



Day 7: Our last full day in Key Largo, and we headed out at 7:30am to Miami for an airboat tour of about 20 miles of the approximately 572,00 acres of sawgrass marshes of the Everglades. Our guides for this great tour were Everglades of Grass Ecotours.



THE CHANNEL ISLANDS DIVERS (L-R):

Mike Frabasilio, Teri Scarpino, Joe Razo, Laura Forsyth, Del Stewart, Mark Thompson, Pattis Thompson, Sandy Bickford, Tessie Kollwitz, Ken Kollwitz, Eric Taylor.
(Not shown: Steve Lancaster, Rob Marion, Lina Marion, Sammy Marion)





Channel Islands Divers

FEBRUARY MEETING RAFFLE WINNERS!



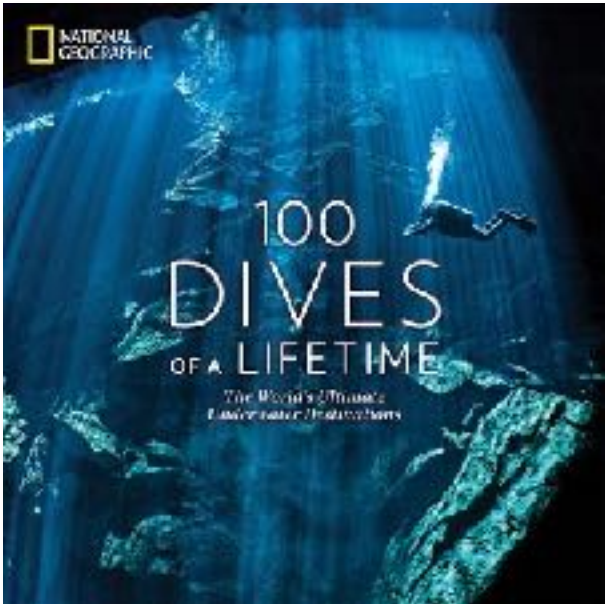
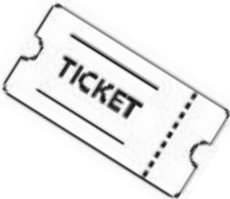
GENERAL PRIZE DRAWING:

- ◆ Kimberly Malone - First Aid Kit
- ◆ Teresa Ray - SX Scuba Landing Pad for changing and storing wetsuits
- ◆ Alex Weid - National Geographic Book **100 Dives of a Lifetime**
- ◆ Jack Murphy - PCH Scuba \$65 Discover Scuba Diving gift certificate
- ◆ Rex Murphy - NeoSport booties



DOOR PRIZE:

- ◆ Eric Taylor - Gear retractor



A look behind the scenes...your Board wishes to share with you, our members, the club's financials...

**CHANNEL ISLANDS DIVE CLUB, INC. (DBA: CHANNEL ISLANDS DIVERS)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION ("Assets")
AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2023**

	BALANCE
	AS OF
	12/31/2023
ASSETS:	
US Bank Balance	\$4,393.42
Obligated/Designated Cash by Activity:	
Monterey Aquarium Tour (outstanding invoice)	(48.00)
Key Largo Trip (outstanding invoice)	(\$1,358.78)
IMAX (outstanding invoice)	(197.00)
Designated Funds for Future Dive Trips	(497.42)
Designated Funds for Merchandise Purchases	(10.45) (\$2,111.65)
Available Cash as of December 31, 2023	\$2,281.77
Inventory (break-even points):	
T-Shirts/Hats	\$0.00
Patches & Stickers	\$497.76
Total Inventory	\$497.76
NET ASSETS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2023	\$2,779.53
NET POSITION:	
Net Cash Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year Ended December 31, 2023	\$2,420.89
Change in Financial Position (Assets) for the Calendar Year	\$358.64
NET POSITION (total assets) AS DECEMBER 31, 2023	\$2,779.53

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

- 1) **UNAUDITED** - No assurance is provided on these financial statements.
- 2) These financial statement are prepared on a modified cash basis, which includes Inventory for Return on Investment (ROI) purposes, in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles for tax exempt/nonprofit organizations, and in accordance with Special Purpose Frameworks issued by the AICPA for small/medium-sized entities.
- 3) The Board of Directors has elected not to include a Statement of Cash Sources and Uses, nor a Statement of Cash Flows, as part of these financial statements.
- 4) Since the Channel Islands Dive Club does not receive revenues from donations or grants, and the club does not hold any investments nor employ any personnel, the Board of Directors has elected to omit any additional note disclosures.
- 5) These statement are "limited use," and are intended for internal use by the Board of Directors and members of the Channel Islands Dive Club.

Thank you Ann for all your hard work and dedication as our club's treasurer!

**CHANNEL ISLANDS DIVE CLUB, INC. (DBA: CHANNEL ISLANDS DIVERS)
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES ("Check Book")
FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023**

ACTIVITY NAME:	BALANCE AS OF 12/31/2023 NET SURPLUS/ (DEFICIT)	2022 PRIOR YEAR TOTALS
MEMBERSHIP:		
New Memberships:		
Individual	\$405.00	\$350.00
Family	\$510.00	\$55.00
Renewal Memberships:		
Individual	\$510.00	\$520.00
Family	\$865.00	\$805.00
Sub-totals for Membership	\$2,290.00	\$1,730.00
PRIZE DRAWINGS:		
General Meetings Drawings	(\$155.90)	\$163.35
Refugio BBQ drawing expenditures	(\$233.78)	(\$133.04)
Holiday Party drawing expenditures	(\$175.00)	(\$50.00)
Sub-totals for Prize Drawings	(\$564.68)	(\$19.69)
MERCHANDISE:		
T-shirt sales	\$440.00	(\$304.55)
Hat sales	\$20.00	
Patches and Stickers	\$17.00	(\$514.76)
Sub-totals for Merchandise	\$477.00	(\$819.31)
DIVE TRIPS AND OTHER CLUB EVENTS		
Refugio BBQ Supplies & Food 2023	(\$392.30)	(\$342.98)
Holiday Party Supplies & Food 2023	(\$334.71)	(\$118.51)
Photo Contest Supplies & Printing 2023	\$0.00	(\$157.56)
Catalina Trip - 11/11/22	\$312.02	
Island Packers-2/11 Whales;6/18Anacapa;09/23SRI	\$62.00	
Spectre - 03/18; 11/18	\$66.00	\$30.00
Peace - 07/02/2023 dive trip	\$22.40	
Monterey Weekend & Boat Dive - 10/19	\$35.00	
Monterey Aquarium tour-10/22 (invoice outstanding)	\$48.00	
Key Largo Trip-02/04/24 (invoice outstanding)	\$1,358.78	
IMAX - 01/13/24 (invoice outstanding)	\$197.00	
Sub-totals for Dive Trips and Club Events	\$1,374.19	(\$589.05)
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES:		
Speakers' Expenditures	(\$319.99)	(\$126.81)
Web Page Administration	(\$521.88)	
Bank Charges/Interest Earned	(\$88.36)	(\$9.00)
PayPal Fees	\$0.00	(\$8.10)
Charitable Donations	(\$100.00)	(\$100.00)
Club Equipment	\$0.00	
Newsletter Expenditures	\$0.00	
Secretary of State	\$0.00	

**CHANNEL ISLANDS DIVE CLUB, INC. (DBA: CHANNEL ISLANDS DIVERS)
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES ("Check Book")
FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023**

ACTIVITY NAME:	BALANCE AS OF 12/31/2023 NET SURPLUS/ (DEFICIT)	2022 PRIOR YEAR TOTALS
General Club Expenditures (PO Box;decorations)	(\$125.39)	(\$354.29)
Sub-total for Administrative Expenses	(\$1,155.62)	(\$598.20)
GRAND TOTALS - Cumulative Net Surplus/(Deficit) for the Calendar Year	\$2,420.89	(\$296.25)

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thank you Ann for all your hard work as treasurer, and Sandy for sharing this data

Save the Date!

September 7, 2024 at Refugio State Beach

Channel Islands Divers Annual Beach Dive & Barbecue

If you plan on reserving a campsite at Refugio, go to <https://www.reservecalifornia.com/Web/>

Reservations open up 6 months before date requested and go fast so book now if you plan on getting a campsite!

C A L E N D A R

<p>MARCH 2024</p> <p>20 General Meeting Eric Taylor & Laura Forsyth</p> <p>23 Club Beach Dive* at Leo Carrillo-pending conditions</p> <p>25 Board Meeting</p>	<p>APRIL 2024</p> <p>17 General Meeting Jimmy Harvey Navy Diving</p> <p>20 Club Beach Dive*</p> <p>22 Board Meeting</p> <p>28 Spectre Boat Dive</p>	<p>MAY 2024</p> <p>15 General Meeting Milton Love Rigs to Reefs</p> <p>18 Club Beach Dive*</p> <p>20 Board Meeting</p>
<p>JUNE 2024</p> <p>19 General Meeting Speaker TBD</p> <p>22 Club Beach Dive*</p> <p>24 Board Meeting</p>	<p>JULY 2024</p> <p>17 General Meeting Speaker TBD</p> <p>20 Club Beach Dive*</p> <p>22 Board Meeting</p>	<p>AUGUST 2024</p> <p>21 General Meeting Speaker TBD</p> <p>24 Club Beach Dive*</p> <p>26 Board Meeting</p>

*Location of Beach Dives TBD

Board of Directors

Mike Cunningham, President
president@channelislandsdivers.org

Bill Weinerth, VP/Speaker Seeker
vicepresident@channelislandsdivers.org

Rob Marion , Secretary
secretary@channelislandsdivers.org

Ann Hoagland, Treasurer
treasurer@channelislandsdivers.org

Sandy Bickford, Dive Coordinator
dive@channelislandsdivers.org

Stella Vaccaro, Newsletter Editor
editor@channelislandsdivers.org

Del Stewart
webmaster@channelislandsdivers.org

Teresa Ray, Raffle Coordinator
raffle@channelislandsdivers.org

Laura Forsyth, Membership Coordinator
membership@channelislandsdivers.org

Mike Frabasilio, Club Librarian
library@channelislandsdivers.org

Current Membership: 102

Membership Policy:

Club policy is to drop members from the roster **THREE MONTHS AFTER MEMBERSHIP EXPIRATION.**

Renewing Members:

Single - \$30 Family - \$45

New Membership:

Single - \$40 Family - \$55

membership@channelislandsdivers.org

Please mail renewals to:

CID Membership
P.O. Box 5801
Ventura, CA 93005



Or renew via Zelle from your app/website.
Send payment to: cidtreasurer92@gmail.com
Add message with description, e.g., "shirt", "trip deposit", "membership renewal", etc. *Thanks!*