



The Buoy Tender

Newsletter of
The Marker Buoy
Dive Club
Seattle, WA
April 2010

Beachcombing 2010

Once again the Annual Marker Buoy Banquet was a huge success. This year folks arrived in their sandals and shorts to the new location at the Puget Sound Yacht Club. Jim Pappin brought his friend Wilson. OK it was soccer ball in stead of a volley ball, but we knew what he was going for. Devon brought a small box full of real Puget Sound sand with a comb neatly placed in it. Beachcomber – get it! The

possible. It was a blast. We competed as a table and the winning table won a 2 tank boat charter dive with Bandito Charters on August 1st. Jim even made copies of the game DVD for everyone at the Banquet.

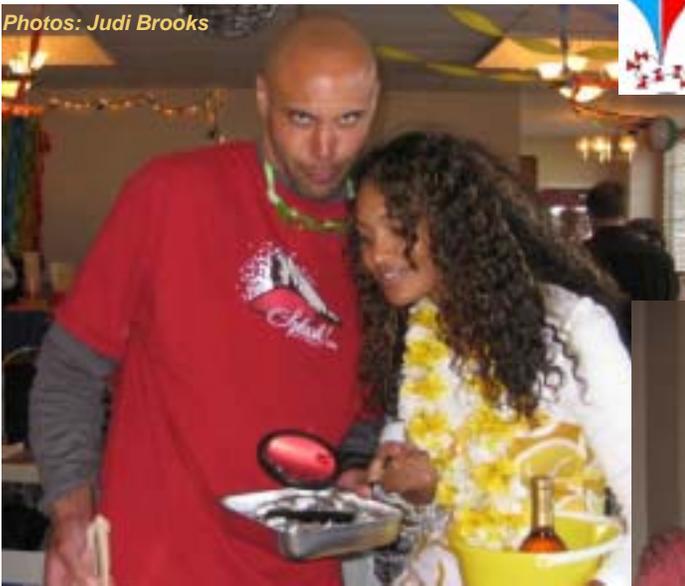


If that wasn't enough it was now time for Carl Harrington to start MC'ing the raffle. Jim McGauhey came up with the idea of separating the prizes into categories this year so people could put their tickets in a bucket for something they really wanted or needed. Then after all the buckets prizes had been selected, all tickets were put in the final drawing for the 4 biggest prizes. It worked beautifully. Every bucket was filled and people got something they really wanted.



Somewhere during all this we also had a chance to sit down and eat some really good food. Our

Photos: Judi Brooks



Randys made an entrance as a couple of East Coast beachcombers in their high knee socks, long shorts, noses protected with zinc oxide, hats, and very loud jersey accented conversation.

It was a load of fun as predicted. Carl brought us a great Beach Blanket Bingo mixer game. Found out some interesting things about my fellow Marker Buoy members. Once your card was filled out you could choose from a table loaded with smaller prizes.



The main entertainment was a game assembled by Jim McGauhey, the man in charge of this year's Banquet. He created a DVD of both video clips and stills of various Marker Buoy members mostly either diving or on shore in their drysuits. Our task was to identify as many as



Photos: Judi Brooks

new caterer did not disappoint. Not only was it good, there was plenty of it. The vegetable ravioli and the salmon in cranberry sauce were real standouts to me. Some might think the chocolate mouse cake was pretty tasty too. I'm guessing we'll invite this caterer back again next year.

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Beachcombing

The sponsors for our prizes were all wonderful to work with and very generous to us this year, especially considering how difficult business has been. I'm including a full list of all the prizes and who donated them (see last pages). Please patronize these folks. And when you do, mention you are a Marker Buoy. That way they know this kind of exposure makes a difference.

The list also includes the winner of each major prize. Prizes that were in the final drawing are noted in blue.

Two of our very generous sponsor also just happened to be Marker Buoy members **Bruce Justinen of Seasoft** and **Jack Connick of Optical Ocean Sales**. I can't thank them enough for truly helping this to be a very special event. Also MB members, **Josh Hill and Randy Williams of Tacoma Scuba** worked to give us a great deal on the Aeris computer and console which we purchased as one of our main prizes.

Thanks to everyone for coming and making this the best Banquet everso far.

Joyce Merkel



Photos:
Joyce Merkel &
Judi Brooks

Salt Creek - Soaring the Kelp Forests

It was downright nice out when I arrived at Salt Creek. The water was flat, the campground fairly empty and views of Mt Baker and Race Rocks. Al showed up and we went diving. We entered at the cove just east of the campsite for an afternoon dive. We swam toward Canada twisting about through the channels and walls to about 45 ft where the bottom starts to gravel out, then turned toward Seattle. There isn't much to see at that depth so we headed back shallower to the rock formations and kelp and swam toward Japan.

This is what Salt Creek is about to me; checking out the terrain, soaring through the kelp forests and canyons looking at all the pretty colors. The predominant life here consists of Urchins and Kelp Greenling.

After 75 minutes we wound up where we started. Back at the RV, Lisa had left a note and Dave arrived. We had dinner; pulled pork sandwiches and baked beans that Dave and Al brought. A bit later Drew arrived.

It was a beautiful night. Stars were out in force so Drew set up a tent and Dave slept under the stars, until it started raining; he then came into the RV. During the night I could hear the rain coming down and at other times the waves crashing hard onto the beach, not a good thing for this dive site. Drew slept in the tent until someone's rooster woke him at sunrise. It was a little overcast and we had an occasional sprinkle but it was not bad



Photo: Rob Henderson

overall. Dive entry was not to be an issue.

After breakfast we headed out for a dive. We found several octos, Rhino Crab, Butterfly Crab, Scaly Crab and Umbrella Crab, and lots more Urchins



Photo: Rob Henderson

and Kelp Greenlings.

On the next dive Dave, Lisa and Drew came back after an hour or so. I bet they saw Urchins and Greenling. From shore I noticed they got separated. Two divers popped up here and one popped up waaaaaaay over there. It was perfect; look for a minute and then surface. All three popped

up at the same time. Good job!

The vis was about 10-15' all weekend and with the maze-like channels and the current, it was very easy to lose track of someone. Amazing how far apart you can get in a short time!

We met another dive pair and asked who fills their tanks. He said "I do". Shortly after, Dave took the tanks to his house and he "did"..... fill our tanks. The guy's name is "Dano" and he said we could call him anytime.

Meanwhile, back at "headquarters", Kirby and I dove. The current was letting up and there was a slight surge. We wandered around for an hour I and found lots of octo dens. With the surge, shooting the chutes was a blast and swimming through the "rabbit-warren" of trails in the kelp was another fun aspect of this dive.

Dinner time, Let's eat! Spaghetti, salad, bread, and chocolate cake with a caramel crunch crust. Told you guys you should have come. Thanks everyone for coming and sharing food. After dinner, Kirby, Dave and I went for a night dive. I asked Lisa to come in an hour and look for us. We were on a mission to find an octo out in the open so we headed to 65FSW where it's just gravel and clams. We swam east to no avail and gave up in this barren area so we headed back to the rock structures in search of SOMETHING.

We found it, an XXL Puget Sound King Crab nestled under a large kelp leaf. It looked like a burl on a tree when I



Photo: Rob Henderson

first noticed it. That's when it happened; We three divers turned into the paparazzi! I bet that crab was partially cooked when we were done with it. After I had my turn admiring it and not getting one great shot, I let the boys at it and moved back.

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Salt Creek

Perfect timing; I found a Silver Spotted Sculpin. It is the prettiest fish I have seen in our local waters and even holds



its own against some other tropical fish I've seen. We were in a bit of a surge so my pics weren't

great, or else it was my POS camera; that's my story. I did my part and found the fish! Isn't it up to the camera to make it look good? The SS Sculpin was not shy, and approached the camera several times to see what I was doing, but moving targets suck for my [camera's] photo abilities.

When the boys were done "cooking" the crab, the Sculpin had vanished and it was time to head in. Throughout this dive, the Greenlings would actually stay still for pics, finally. We surfaced 25' East of my light and saw Lisa on shore with her light, signaled OK, and swam in. On shore Lisa said she could see our lights waaaaaay out there, probably during "Crab Fest" which was at 25 ft.

Sunday morning Kirby, Dave and myself made this drift dive: enter the water at the Eastern access, by the big parking lot, and drift to the western most site, a quarter mile away. We were committing to get there because after the giant stride off the rocks I don't see how we could have gotten back onto those rocks because the tide was so low.

The best sighting of this dive was a nice sized octo somewhat out of its' den near an Umbrella Crab (which

wasn't harmed during the photo shoot. Afterwards, ?????)

A nice Cabezon, which didn't attack, approached us. After an hour we came across a barren patch of nothing but Urchins, a familiar scene.

We turned South and popped up at the take out. Well done! It had cooled off and fog was coming in and by the time we got out of our gear you couldn't see Tongue Point from our campsite

anymore.

The fog had lifted as we packed up camp and contemplated diving Crescent Lake, but the heck with it; let's just go home. We were whooped! When we arrived at Edmonds I was going to dive the park but there wasn't any parking, so yeah, that's it!

Pros of Salt Creek: Awesome terrain, riding the surge through the channels, Kelp Forest, Urchins, Greenling, PS King Crab, SS Sculpin, shore dive-ability.

Cons of Salt Creek: If the water's rough, entry can 'suck' but it was OK this weekend.

Rob Henderson

Local Dives Calendar

Date/Time	Location	Dive Host	Experience Level
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Jim Boon (jimboon@blarg.net) and Rich Moore (RichMoore@mailsnare.net) are co-hosting Wed. evening dives at Cove 2 or 3-Tree: 6:30 meet time > 7PM splash. No dive on club meeting night (1st Wed).

Discover Dives lead by Jerry Effenberger, assisted by Bobby Berenson - specifically intended to help "jump start" newly certified into the local dive scene and also assist divers that may be new to the area. Free - Open to all divers. Includes - required PADI release form, dive briefing, pre-dive safety and buddy check; limited to 6-8 divers. These are experience dives, not training or refresher dives. Advanced registration required. Contact Edmonds Underwater Sports - 425-771-6322, edmonds@underwatersports.com

5/5 Wed 7-9 PM	Sunset Hill Community Club Ballard	Dive Club Meeting 3003 NW 66TH	All Members and Guests
5/5 Wed 10 AM	Bruce Higgins UW Trails Discover Dive 425-771-6322	Bobby Berenson edmonds@underwatersports.com	All divers/New divers see note above
5/6 Thur. 9 AM	Deception Pass	Steve deBlois 206-860-3478 skdeblois@aol.com	Seriously advanced CURRENT!
5/8 Sat 1:15 PM (2 PM splash)	Sunrise Gig Harbor	Joyce Merkel 206-525-0736 joyce@merkelclan.com	Int. hill walk
5/8 Sat 1:30	Keystone ferry-carpool suggested	Hiller West 206-361-1479 hillerwest@cs.com	Intermediate full facilities
5/12 6:30 PM	Cove 2 7 PM splash	Jim Boon 206-947-0297 jimboon@blarg.net	Evening dive
5/14 Fri 6 PM	Bruce Higgins UW Trails Discover Dive 425-771-6322	Jerry Effenburger edmonds@underwatersports.com	Advanced - Night 2 light+night dive exp
5/15 Sat 4 PM	Dive Planning Party BBQ, pot-luck, BYOB	Hiller West 206-361-1479 hillerwest@cs.com	All members Dives and planning tools
17519 12th Av. NE (second house on the left when you turn onto 12th)			
5/18 Wed 6:30 PM	BHUT (Mariners game) 7 PM splash	Jim Boon 206-947-0297 jimboon@blarg.net	Evening dive
5/20 Thur 10 AM	Bruce Higgins UW Trails Discover Dive 425-771-6322	Bobby Berenson edmonds@underwatersports.com	All divers/New divers see note above
5/21-23	Dive Expo	Tacoma	Members to staff booth
Contact Randi Weinsein (206-387-9584) and/or add your name to the Yahoo calendar			
5/26 Wed 6:30 PM	BHUT (Mariners game) 7 PM splash	Jim Boon 206-947-0297 jimboon@blarg.net	Evening dive
6/2 Wed 7-9 PM	Sunset Hill Community Club Ballard	Dive Club Meeting 3003 NW 66TH	All Members and Guests
6/5 Sat 11 Splash	Rich Passage/Waterman wall Kitsap - carpool Potluck & BBQ after dive.	Doug Miller & Karin Fletcher 425) 246-6499 doug@milltech.com	Int. limited parking
6/6 Sun 9 AM	Rosario Beach, Rosario Head Urchin Rocks, NW Island	Carl Harrington 206-546-0275 carlatisc@yahoo.com	Int - Currents
2 dives w/picnic lunch at surface interval. Choice of sites above. Kayaks possible.			
6/9 Wed 6:30 PM	3-Tree 7 PM splash	Jim Boon 206-947-0297 jimboon@blarg.net	Evenig dive

MARKER BUOY DIVE CLUB

Date/Time	Location	Dive Host	Experience Level
6/16 Wed 6:30 PM	Cove 2 7 PM splash	Jim Boon 206-947-0297 jimboon@blarg.net	Evening dive
6/19 Sat. 10 AM	Bruce Higgins UW Trails Discover Dive 425-771-6322	Jerry Effenberger edmonds@underwatersports.com	All divers/New divers see note above
6/20 Sun. Noon	Skyline/Burrows Pass Anacortes (1 1/2 hour drive)	Fritz Merkel 206-525-0736 fritz@merkelclan.com	Advanced-long swim, current no facilities-stop in town
6/23 Wed 6:30 PM	BHUT (Mariners game) 7 PM splash	Jim Boon 206-947-0297 jimboon@blarg.net	Evening dive
6/30 Wed 6:30 PM	Cove 2 7 PM splash	Jim Boon 206-947-0297 jimboon@blarg.net	Evening dive
7/3 Sat 10AM Splash	Harper Ferry Southworth Ferry	Devon Johnson Devon.johnson@ots.treas.gov	All divers V. Limited Parking - carpool
BBQ nearby afterward to celebrate independence day ~1:00pm. Some food/Non-adult beverages provided along with rinse station for your gear. The grill will be fired up and the ice will be ready. Bring your favorite food and beverage			
7/4 Sun. 9 AM ?	Skyline/Burrows Pass Anacortes (1 1/2 hour drive)	Fritz Merkel 206-525-0736 fritz@merkelclan.com	Advanced-long swim, current no facilities-stop in town
7/7 Wed 6 PM	Annual Club Picnic BBQ, Potluck (BYOB-discrete)	All Members Great Time!	Woodland Park #4 No meeting in Ballard
7/3 Sat 9 AM	Bruce Higgins UW Trails Discover Dive 425-771-6322	Jerry Effenberger edmonds@underwatersports.com	All divers/New divers see note above
7/4 Sat 10 AM	Bruce Higgins UW Trails Discover Dive 425-771-6322	Jerry Effenberger edmonds@underwatersports.com	All divers/New divers see note above
7/10-11 TBD- campout/BBQ - Reservations advised now	Salt Creek	Drew Collins 206-334-3470 drew-collins@comcast.net	Advanced entry Drew in #60
7/16-17	Redondo	Dive Around the Clock	1 hour shifts
8/27-28 TBD- campout/BBQ - Reservations advised now	Salt Creek	Drew Collins 206-334-3470 drew-collins@comcast.net	Advanced entry Drew in #60

Dive Trips Calendar

May 6, 7, and possibly 8 - Vancouver BC dive Weekend

Several photographers are heading up to the Vancouver, BC area. The tentative plan is to hit the Howe Sound area: shore dive places like Whytecliff, Porteau, and Kelvin Grove on Thursday, boat dive with the **Sea Dragon** folks on Friday, and see about Saturday morning dives. Back in time for Saturday dinner and Mothers' Day on Sunday. Drew Collins has run down some great hotel rates in Vancouver. If you are interested, just let Drew or I know. Dan Clements 425.418.8755 dan@clements.com

June 6-12 Bahamas Dolphins, Sharks, and Reef Life. Meet in Lucaya, just outside of Freeport, for encounters with Bottlenose Dolphins, Reef Sharks, and other reef life. Shore based boat dives with Unexo. This is the site and operator Stephen Frink uses to get his amazing dolphin shots. Call/e-mail,for details. Dan Clements 425.418.8755 dan@clements.com

Meeting Announcement

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 5, 7 PM - Visitors Welcome!

Program: Slide presentation of his Banquet win trip to the Socorros by Jack Connick. Great photography. Plus-see the newest UW photo gear.

Marker Buoy Dive Club Board of Directors

President:	Joyce Merkel	(206) 525-0736	joyce@merkelclan.com
Vice President:	Carl Harrington	(206) 546-0275	carlastisc@yahoo.com
Secretary:	Scott Brockenbough	(425) 823-9414	jsbrock@u.washington.edu
Treasurer:	Ross Smith	(206) 427-9244	archaeofish.ross@gmail.com
Webmaster:	Doug Coutts	(206) 528.3757	doug.coutts@otbsolutions.com
Program Chair:	Hiller West	(206) 361-1479	hillerwest@comcast.net
Fundraiser:	Jim McGauhey	(360) 653-5518	jmcgauhey@usa.net
Newsletter:	Gene Coronetz	(206) 351-9864	ecoronetz@yahoo.com
Refreshments:	Denise Kitchell	(206) 876-2120	denisekitchel@msn.com

Club Roster: The Marker Buoy Club Roster lists each member's name, address, phone numbers and email address.

The purpose of the list is for diving - to find a buddy for a spontaneous dive, to drum up interest in your forthcoming sponsored dive, or let people know if there has been a change in dive plan. No commercial use is permitted. If you have information to change on the roster contact Scott Brockenbough

Diver's Ed: The club will reimburse members \$15 for successful completion of advanced certification courses that increases the member's competency and safety. Courses that qualify are advanced diver, rescue diver, divemaster, instructor, nitrox, DAN O2 Provider, and initial First Aid & CPR (non-renewal). Reimbursement for other courses subject to board approval. Show proof of course completion to Ross Smith, Treasurer, to collect.

Weight Belt Replacement Policy: The Marker Buoy Dive Club will replace any weight belt lost during an emergency on a club sponsored dive. Weight Belt accessories are not covered.

Sponsor a Dive, Earn an Air Card: Dive hosts receive an Air Card good at local dive shops when 6 Marker Buoy members participate on the dive. The Club Oxygen Kit counts as a buddy as long as one member of the party is O2 trained. The club has two O2 kits: Both are currently with Fritz & Joyce Merkel (Sandpoint).

YahooGroups Marker Buoys: Join our **members-only** on-line web group! Find a last-minute dive buddy, a ride, or directions to a dive, trip reports, as well as our roster and newsletters.

Go to: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MarkerBuoys> on the web, or send an email to:

MarkerBuoys-subscribe@yahoo.com.

INSTRUCTOR MEMBERS

**Greg Wilson - NAUI - greg@eastsidediving.com
425-941-4783 www.eastsidediving.com**

**Jerry Effenberger -PADI - Master Scuba Diver Trainer
Edmonds Underwater Sports
jerrysafediver@comcast.net /206-579-9773 (cell)**

**Randy Williams - TDI/SDI Open Water thru Advanced
Mixed-Gas Instructor & NAUI Technical Instructor
heliox@comcast.net / 206-387-6749**

**Rhoda Green - PADI
rhodagreen@yahoo.com / 425-652-7699**

**Scott Christopher- Multiple certifications-SDI /TDI/ NAUI/
NACD/ PADI/ DAN
scott@soundaquatics.com; www.soundaquatics.com/
425-241-1113**

CLASSIFIED ADS

Maui condo - Great for divers. Ground floor, 1/4 mi. from B&B Scuba in Kihei. Centrally located on Maui from all dive sites. Ref: <http://vrbo.com/123327>.

Cheryl Hughes - ch206ch@yahoo.com, (206) 200-4609

For Sale: NEW Tilos 7 mil wetsuit with attached hood. **Size small.** Color black & blue. Perfect for use in Hawaii, Sea of Cortez and Channel islands. \$105.00. Judi Brooks (425) 641-2570 (divegal@netscape.com)

OS rear entry drysuit, small, **flourescent pink upper**, very little use-less than 10 dives. Zipper is excellent, seals may need replacement. \$300. Located in Gig Harbor. Joyce Merkel -206-525-0736, joyce@merkelclan.com

Prez Report

We did it again. Another great Banquet. Hope you all had a fantastic time. There were so many of your fellow club members that helped make the Banquet happen that I have to take some time to let you know about them.

The person heading up the plans for this year's party was **Jim McGahey**. Jim assembled the DVD for the highly successful main game/entertainment of the evening, worked with the building manager and the caterer, came up with the bucketing of prizes idea, created name tags, and many other smaller tasks that have to be done.



Jim's energy makes me dizzy. He accomplished

much of this in the last few weeks and did a fantastic job.

It was **Mike (Maddog) Thompson** who presented the idea of using the Puget Sound Yacht club and the caterer that the yacht club has used in the past. He even procured a discount for us on the hall because he is a member. Having the event at this location and with this caterer saved us money in so many different ways. What we got in return was a delightful hall full of extras like round tables and an ice machine and food that was spectacular at any price. A total win-win.

The Beach Blanket Bingo cards were the work of **Carl Harrington**. He developed the game and created all the materials to go with it. Then being the multi-talented guy that he is, he also conducted the raffle in a professional and very entertaining way. No small feat with all the prizes we had and the vendors to acknowledge.

Denise Kitchel jumped in and volunteered to head our decorations committee. All the kites, umbrellas, center pieces, and sand pails that gave the place the perfect feel were from her efforts.

Ross Smith kept track of attendees both before and during the banquet. He was the one checking everyone in at the door and handing them name tags. In addition Ross went through the trials and tribulations of setting up Paypal to make it easier for people to buy tickets.

Scott Brockenbough sent out numerous well crafted emails notifying everyone of the Banquet and of the Paypal option for payment.

Denise Kitchel, Gene Coronetz, and Judi Brooks sold a record number of raffle tickets.

Many members came to help us set up and later stayed to help clean up.

Several Board members donated prizes. **Denise**

Kitchel donated a lunch to go along with Jack's photo session class. **Doug Coutts** donated a professional enlargement of one of your photos. **Jim McGahey** donated a ride in his plane.

I should also mention that, along with all his donations, **Jack Connick** created the perfect design for our Banquet flyers.

Your humble servant and President worked to be sure we were making decisions about content of the Banquet, that tasks were getting done and that people were assigned. In addition I kept a budget, a list of donations, and solicited prizes from seven different vendors. Jim, Gene, and Denise each worked with a vendor as well.

You get the idea. There is so much the Board and others did individually and as a whole. All of this so that on the day of the Banquet you walk in and have a wonderful time. Another demonstration of why this club is so great. Thanks to all of you I've mentioned and anyone I missed. And thanks to all of you who came to the party and made it all worth while.

Don't forget that the next big event is the **Dive Expo 2010** coming up this month, May 21st-23 (see announcement). The Marker Buoys will have a booth. Many of you already know that because you have signed up to cover a shift. There look to be some great seminars during this Expo as well as all those vendor booths to explore. You can find out more at their website www.divenewsnetwork.com/expo/.

*Perhaps even more importantly don't forget the **Dive Planning Party on May 15th Hiller West's** (see announcement). It would be wonderful if we can get another calendar full of dives like we had after our last planning party. See you all there!*

Joyce Merkel

Dive Planning Party

May 15 - Sat, 4 PM

Hiller West - 206-361-1479
hillerwest@cs.com
17519 12th Av. NE

BBQ, pot-luck, BYOB

Dives and planning tools

All Members Welcome!

Even if you aren't planning any dives.

Possession Point State Park

This excellent outing turned into a 2 club dive when we were joined by Moss Bay divers Rich Pleiss and Garrett Tolsma. Marker Buoy divers attending were Doug Coutts, Steve DeBlois, Darin and Nathalie

Curtis, Drew Collins, Johanna Raupe, Devon Johnson & myself (host).

The day was cool (43 to 53 degrees) with a stiff northerly blowing most of the time, but not enough to create waves of any size.

Many in the club are now familiar with this dive and it delivered plenty of goodies again. Visibility was quite turbid up in the shallows (typical) then cleared to a



Photo: Steve deBlois

very pleasant 40 feet as we dropped over the edge of the escarpment. After solving a pair of equipment glitches that Devon caught during the buddy check, I had the good fortune to descend directly into a mixed school of black and yellow tail rockfish



Photo: Steve deBlois



Photo: Johanna Raupe

juveniles; many hundreds of them. In the crevices of the wall were dozens of quillback, brown and copper rockfish. Scatterings of shiner perch were about, and happily, in one crevice, I found 3 juvenile yelloweye rockfish; the smallest less than 2 inches, the biggest about 5 inches. (later saw 2 others) Further on, GPOs were home in their lairs. Black eyed gobies and myriad quantities of shrimp were



© Johanna Raupe

everywhere. On the silt covered ledges, clam necks, burrowing cucumbers and anemones found purchase. 2 big (30#+) lings glared back at me from their respective resting places; the dozen others I observed were in the 10 # class. Here and there were nudibranchs of one sort and another, but conspicuously absent today were the little gunnels and schooling Puget Sound rockfish that have been here on past visits.

Upon our return to "base camp"(dive 2) we skirted the sandy slope from 50 to 30 feet where the visibility was still pretty good. "Acres of Clams" are here, as are many dozens of 'ling trout' (2 to 3 # specimens) bug eyed sole and Oh, so many dungeness and red rock crab! I found and



Photo: Darren Curtis

retrieved the 12# downrigger ball that Johanna had told me about after the first dive, and this added weight helped me drag myself along the bottom to the exit directly in front of our staging area, despite facing a mild ebb current.

Cont. P.10

Poss. Pt.

I mention the current particularly because I normally consider this dive to be current free, ONCE YOU DESCEND INTO THE AREA OF THE FINGERS, Where the geology of the site diverts the current away from shore. But up on the slope, it can be pretty fast, especially as it rounds Possession Point. Doug and Johanna found that out first hand after swimming quite far to the south and then exiting across the wide shallow plain at the point. It's best to stay with the wall and turn your dive so that you can get close to your entry point before swimming up into the shallows.

We'll do this one again soon. It's a truly magical area with so much wonderment to see.

Gene Coronetz



Photo: Steve deBlois

Kayak dive & Beach Picnic

Des Moines Marina Wreck

On Saturday, 3/27, MBDC divers, led by our indefatigable Kevin Casey executed another very entertaining dive to the wood hulled motor yacht lying in 50 ft of water about 1 mile north of the Des Moines marina.

Participants were Jim Pappin, Lisa Carpenter and Steve McMillan (who travels all the way from Pendleton OR each weekend to dive with us), Rhoda Green and myself.

The weather was very fair, except for a brief period (of an hour or so) when a strong northerly stirred up the waters a bit, adding some difficulty to locating the site.

Cudo's to Jim Pappin for his assistance when Steve capsized. Jim's only been kayak diving since last August and his skill set has increased significantly.

An enjoyable dive followed in 40 ft visibility where big lings, perch, rockfish and sculpin all made appearances on what would be a boring sand slope without this attractive feature.

A beach picnic featuring a smorgasbord of delicious foods followed. It's just amazing what you can pack into these little boats!

We paddled back to the marina on glassy seas in delightfully warm air, with the sun low in the west, making a beautiful backdrop of the Olympic Mountains.

Gene Coronetz



Photos: Gene Coronetz

Club News

MBDC Joins the REEF Field Station Network

In April 2010 the Marker Buoy Dive Club became the first dive club in the Pacific Northwest to host a REEF Field Station. For the members who were not able to attend the



April club meeting, REEF (Reef Environmental Education Foundation) is an international grass-roots, non-profit organization of recreational divers who regularly conduct fish and invertebrate biodiversity and abundance surveys during

their dives. These survey data become part of a publicly-accessible online database that can be found at the website www.reef.org

As a REEF Field Station, the Marker Buoy Dive Club can conduct fish and invertebrate identification training classes. The MBDC board is currently looking into obtaining the course materials and will be reaching out to our membership for volunteers to lead these classes. In addition, Marker Buoy Dive Club members can sponsor REEF surveys at their favorite dive sites. As part of the network of REEF field stations the Marker Buoy Dive Club can post our training classes and survey dive events on the REEF calendar of activities (<http://www.reef.org/event>).

If anyone is interested in learning more about the Marker Buoy Dive Club REEF Survey Station, sponsoring a REEF survey dive, or participating in fish and invertebrate identification classes, please contact Ross Smith at archaeofish.ross@gmail.com

Ross Smith



Volunteers needed for the MBDC Booth @ The Dive Travel Expo . Contact Randi Weinstein or fill in a slot on the Yahoo Calendar.

Derelict Fishing Gear Removal Project

Long-lasting marine debris posing many problems to people and to marine animals, including:

- Entangling divers and swimmers;
- Trapping and wounding or killing fish, shellfish, birds and marine mammals;
- Degrading marine ecosystems and sensitive habitats;
- Damaging propellers and rudders of recreational boats, commercial and military vessels;
- Endangering boat crews and passengers with vessel capsizing.



What You Can Do:

- Stay safely away from it!
- Do not attempt removal - you may actually violate state and/or federal law.
- Record as much information as you can while you're on-site > Location, Type of Gear, Details, Your Contact Name, Report what you see.
- Report it by calling the WDFW Derelict Fishing Gear Hotline (1-800 477-6224) or by using the reporting form (<http://www.derelictgeardb.org/reportgear.aspx>).

For far greater detail see the WDFW web site: (<http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/derelict/>)

Dive Around the Clock



July 16 and 17th, 2010.
Registration is open.
Start getting your donors.

Treasury Report

MBDC checking account: \$5632.92
 We have the following air cards:

- 4 - 5th Dimension
- 1 - Lighthouse
- 1 - UWS
- 1 - Starfish Diving

Race Rocks

With our host, Jack Connick, we dove NW Race which is mostly a wall going to the abyss, 200+ feet



completely covered in life. Soft and hard corals, Urchins, plants, Anemones, Barnacles, Starfish, Nudibranch,

into 4-6'+ waves and the 20 minute ride out took over an hour to get back with water completely coming over the boat as we hit waves. No worries though, we were still in our drysuits and had plenty of NDL time left. I'd love to see the dive profile graphs for that day.

Pros of Race Rocks. COLORFUL!!!!, Stellar Sea Lion, Basket Star, Orange Peel, Leopard and Cockerelli nudis and a fun boat ride.

Cons of Race Rocks. If any, it would be the



small crab and fish, Seals, Sea Lions and, more! Kirby and I buddied for this dive that included, Jack and Paul, Karin and Doug, Jim and Jim. We left Ogden Pt. in the 26' "Juan De Fuca Warrior",



current keeping us out of the better spots.

Rob Henderson



ready to dive on a sunny, although cold, calm morning. We dropped in on the NW

end and swam E into a slight current that half way through the dive switched direction as planned but wasn't an issue when it got rippin' because we were in the back eddy of the rock by then. It was fun to swim into the flow and drift/tumble a bit then get out, swim W and do it again.

After an hour dive and not being able to dive the most colorful areas because of current we surfaced. Dang! What happened to our calm day? The wind had turned the strait



All Photos: Rob Henderson

Monterey Bay

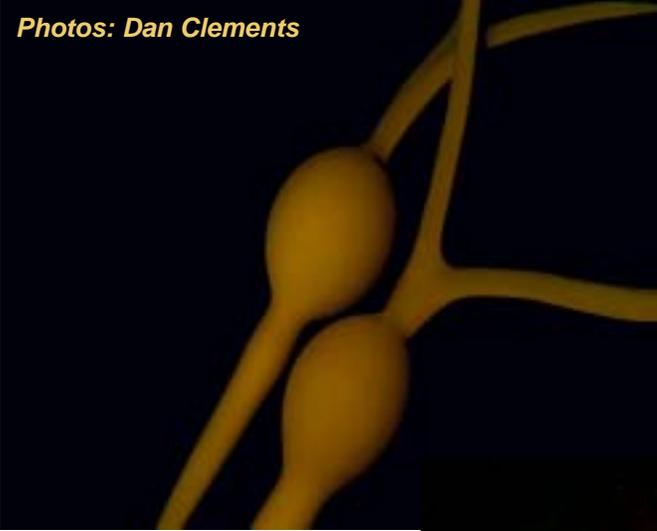
Each Spring we head south to Monterey for some kelp forest diving and photography. Due to lack of a day-job, the trip was expanded to include a second week of shore diving at Casino Point on Catalina Island. Wow, what a fun outing: it will

Scuba Luv dive shop for nitrox fills very easy.

During the five days on the Island viz was consistently in the 50'-70' range. There is a major problem with an invasive sargassum from Japan, but this sea weed dies off this time of year. The kelp forests and critters in the Casino Point dive part were spectacular.

Then off to Monterey. The weather turned quite a bit

Photos: Dan Clements

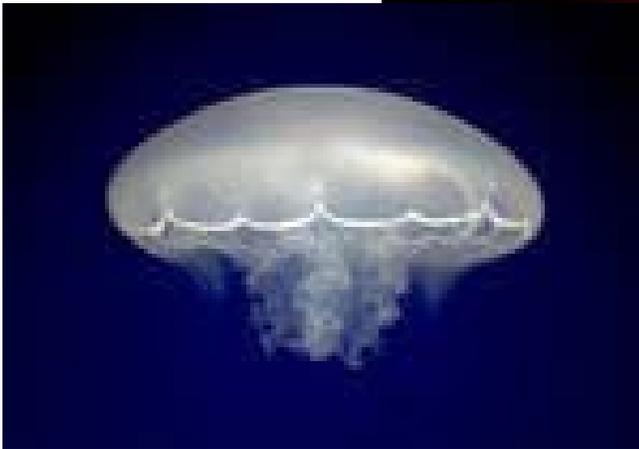


definitely be on next year's agenda.

First the Catalina diving. The weather was spectacular: 85 degrees, and from Avalon we were able to clearly see the snow capped peaks of San Jacinto,



colder, as a wet cold front moved in. Due to viz in the 15'-20' range we dove only three of the scheduled five days. In spite of the poor viz, primarily caused by run-off, close-up and macro photography were fun. It is also a kick to get "buzzed" by the



resident sea lions west of the jetty.

Water temperatures were not much warmer that here: 57 degrees, so the dry suit felt very comfortable. The biggest draw-back was the closure of I-5 ten miles north of Redding due to a blizzard, jack-knifed trucks, and a 20 car accident. It looked like WWII the next morning when I drove through.

If you are interested in diving either of these areas, feel free to drop me an e-mail. Or better yet, come along on the 2011 trip!

San Gorgonio, and Mt Baldy. We met up with some old California friends, one of whom has a condo and golf cart on the Island. It made the trek to and from the Catalina

Dan Clements

Banquet 2010 Donations

Donated By	Prize	Winner
Pacific Adventures Charters	1 - 1 person/ 2 tank dive	<i>*To be raffled at next club meeting</i>
Bandito Charters	1 - 2 person/ 2 tank dive	*Mary and Jim McGauhey
Deep Sea Charters	2 – 2 tank dive	*Hiller West *Jim Pappin
	1 - 2 tank dive/ get one 2 tank dive	*Hiller West
	1 - 2 tank dive/ get one 2 tank dive	*Ross Smith
Diver’s Dream Charters (Lu-Jac’s Quest)	2 for 1/ 2 tank dive	*Gene Coronetz
Seasoft	1 SEASOFT ALASKA undergarment	*Drew Collins
	1 Travel Dry Roller with reg bag	*Scott Brockenbough
	1 Travel Dry Roller with reg bag	*Jenny Shook
	1 Dry bag with roll out mat	*Kelly Britz
	4 T-shirts (S, 2 -XL, 2XL)	
	4 – Neoprene Mask straps	
Optical Ocean Sales	About 50 or more Olympus calculators 12 or so bottles of Olympus mask clear 10 Sea & Sea hats and t-shirts, maybe 8	
	Plus Seahorse Seahorse 740F rolling hard case – Seahorse Protective Cases	*Doug Coutts
	Plus Olympus Plus Fantasea Complete Camera Outfit Olympus FE-360/PT-044 housing Fantasea Nano Pro lighting package Includes NanoFlash, NanoFocus light sync cord, 2 flex arms, tray & soft bag	*Mark Wilson
	Jack Connick & Denise Kitchell Includes a gift certificate for lunch and a small “seminar” on uw photography for themselves and a buddy.	
Jack Connick & Denise Kitchell	Gift certificate for lunch and a small “seminar” on uw photography for themselves and a buddy.	*Shelby Anderson

Banquet 2010 Donations

Donated By	Prize	Winner
Optical Ocean Sales	Big Blue HID light	*Mike Russel
Marker Buoy Dive Club	\$100 Gift certificate to Optical Ocean Sales	*Greg Wilson
Marker Buoy Dive Club	Seahorse SE-540F Case with Foam	*Sid Pappin
	3 small lights- Fantasea 3 Ikelite Mini-C LED lights 1 Ikelite LED light (larger version) – Ikelite	
Tacoma Scuba and Marker Buoy Dive Club	Aeris dive computer and console	*Kelly Britz
NW Scuba Divers	Experience re-breather, 1 day clinic classroom & pool session.	*Jim Pappin
	Experience Re-breather, 1 day clinic classroom & pool session:	*Mary and Jim McGauhey
	2- NWSB Baseball caps	
	2- NWSB T-shirts	
Lighthouse Diving	5 – 5 fill air cards	
	1 – Fleece lined boat jacket (size L)	*Mike Russel
	1 – Dan Dry Bag 2 – Kona Dry fanny packs 1 – Cetacea Quik Link Adapter 1 – XL OMS T-shirt 1 – Lighthouse Diving Log Book 2 – Pelican MityLite 1900 xenon lights	
Evergreen Dive Service	1 – 10 fill Nitrox card	*Mary and Jim McGauhey
Lockspot Café	Dinner for 2 certificate	*Tony Quinn
Jim McGauhey	One hour sightseeing ride in Cessna 172	*Joel Steck
Doug Coutts	Framed and enlarged photo of choice	* Lisa Mirth