



# SharkBait Dive Club

## March Speaker

Ken Kurtis

Ken's topic is one we are all interested in knowing more about, Why Divers Die. Ken was part of the panel put together by DAN to discuss this subject at the Recreational Diving Fatalities Workshop in 2010.



Ken Kurtis was kicked out of swim class twice by the time he was six. (He didn't like putting his face in the water.) Hardly an auspicious start to a diving career. But Ken always loved being around the water, loved looking at fish, and in 1978 while running a radio station in Richmond, VA, was offered a chance to get certified and took advantage of it. Ken then became a NAUI Instructor (Top Candidate at his 1980 ITC) and has taught thousands of people over the years. He doesn't teach as much as he used to when the brick-and-mortar store was open, but still likes teaching Fish Identification and a few others. Ken's logged over 5,000 dives all over the world in such varied places as the Maldives, Indonesia, Yap, Tahiti, Bonaire, Cocos, Alaska, Easter Island and, of course, his beloved waters of Southern California. As the owner of Reef Seekers Dive Co., he speaks frequently to dive clubs about diving and especially safety issues. Ken's been chairman of Chamber Day/Eve since the early 90s, served as a member of the Statewide Interests Group for the MLPA (Marine Life Protection Act), and is a volunteer Dive Team Leader at the Aquarium of the Pacific. Ken's an accomplished photographer and his photos and stories can be found in the pages of the California Diving News, Sport Diver, Skin Diver, Undercurrent and other scuba publications, along with the monthly Reef Seekers newsletter. Since 2003, Ken has been a Forensic Consultant to the L.A. County Coroner for scuba fatalities, doing accident analysis. With



March 11 Divers Day  
Aquarium of the Pacific

March 14 Club Meeting  
6:30 Graziano's Italian, Yorba Linda

March 19 Beach Dive  
7:00 AM Shaw's Cove Laguna Beach

April 11 Club Meeting  
6:30 PM Graziano's Italian Yorba Linda

April 23 Beach Dive  
7:00 AM Fisherman's Cove, Laguna Beach

May 5,6,7 SCUBA Show  
Long Beach Convention Center

all that he still finds time to maintain an acting career and leads all of the local and foreign trips for Reef Seekers. He's a very good cook, avid Scrabble & Boggle player, chases total solar eclipses (next one is in the US in 2017), ran five L.A. Marathons, and is kind to animals and small children. Be sure to ask him his mantra about divers. He also claims to hold the Reef Seekers deep diving record of 3500' . . . but we have to add the caveat that he did it in the Alvin submersible for a PBS special so that might be cheating.

## 2017 Warm Water Trip

This fall we are off to Cozumel for our Warm Water escape to 80 degree water, warm sunshine, good food, great companions and loads of diving fun.

The dates have not been firmed up yet but will be around the last week of October or the first week of November. We will firm up in April. Let Silvia know if you are interested in going.

We will be staying at the Sunscape Sabor Hotel, all inclusive plan. The dive operator is Dive House Diving.

Sunscape Sabor is located toward the southern end of the island resort and is close to the wondrous Cozumel coral reefs where over 250 fish species swim in crystal clear waters.

The Mesoamerican Barrier Reef System is the second largest coral reef system in the world. Minutes away by boat, this reef system boasts 100% visibility and scuba diving for all levels. (No long boat rides to get to dive sites)

The resort's buffet restaurant serves a range of international food in an informal setting. There are two additional restaurants with a more formal feel as well as three (3) bars.

The hotel has on-site equipment for activities such as snorkeling, sailing, kayaking and many more.

Keep the dates around the end of October and beginning of November clear and join us for some fun and adventure.

PS Let Silvia know you are interested in going.





# Beach Dives

## Change in Beach Procedure

Participation in our beach dives has been pretty spotty of late and to save Martin the hassle of getting to the dive site and having to abort because no one is there we have initiated a RSVP protocol. If you are participating in our beach divem, E-mail Martin at [n1diver@aol.com](mailto:n1diver@aol.com) or call at 714-833-9167.



[www.clipartof.com](http://www.clipartof.com) · 441036

## March 19 Shaw's Cove Laguna Beach 7:00 AM

Shaw's Cove is one of the most popular dive sites in Orange County. It is well-protected from large swells, making it highly suitable for the beginning beach divers. For this reason, many scuba classes are held here every weekend.



The reef consists of a jumble of very large boulders, separated from each other by a maze of trenches. During low tide, you can wade out quite a bit due to the flat bottom. Most divers check out the western side as there is a crevice that leads to Crescent Bay. The crevice is in 15-20 ft of water depending on the tide. There can be a strong surge and there is an arch, creating an overhead environment. There are plenty of smaller channels into the reef as you go deeper.



## April 23 Fisherman's Cove Laguna Beach 7:00 AM RSVP to Martin

Fisherman's Cove, located in Laguna Beach, lies just south of Shaw's Cove. The beach is small, protected and there are multiple mini-reefs are straight out. The South Side of Fisherman's Cove is a complex, teaming with varied Marine Life rock reef system. Large numbers of Mussels, Urchins, Garibaldi, Kelp Bass, Sea Cucumbers, Starfish, and Gorgonians are common sights at this site. Bat Rays commonly play in the sand!.



Diving at Fisherman's Cove is on the reef straight out. If you head to the left you get to the reef area of Divers cove. If you head to the right you get to the reef area of Shaws cove. The depth is typically about 18 to 30 feet. The reef straight out has several rock reef areas that are great to explore. This area is a marine preserve and there is no hunting or gathering allowed! This area has always been good for seeing octopus, lobster, and small crabs.

To get to Fisherman's Cove in Laguna Beach turn south at the traffic light on Beverly street from PCH. The signal has a sign for Beverly street, but when you turn south you are going onto Cliff Drive. The road forks immediately on Cliff drive, stay to the left going onto Cliff Drive and go about 200 yards. The staircase to Fisherman's Cove is just before the last apartment building (looking south, towards the beach).



## Annual Membership Renewal

It's time to renew your membership. As you recall, we changed the annual dues renewal from an anniversary system to a set date system.

At the February Board Meeting, yhe Board voted to reduce the dues to \$20 per year with no additional charge for a family membership.

See Alf Johnson at the meeting to renew your membership.



## Don't Forget Our Sponsors

We are fortunate to have a great group of sponsors who contribute to the success of SharkBait Dive Club. Without their help and support, we wouldn't be able to provide the benefits that membership in SharkBait gives our members.

We need to do our part also by supporting our sponsor/friends with our continuing business support. When considering a purchase of equipment, a class or a trip, or when you have that irresistible taste for Italian food please remember our sponsors. They are great partners !!!!

**Hollywood Divers** is located right near Universal City Walk. They are giving us raffle Gift Certificates from time to time. You will be able to redeem these online through their web site, <http://www.hollywooddivers.com>. You will remember Heather Hamza and her husband Karim. They have both been speakers at our meetings.

**Dive Seekers** is located across the country in New Jersey. They will also be giving us Gift Certificates from time to time. The certificates can be redeemed through their web site at <http://www.diveseekers.com>.

Both of these sponsors carry a complete line of equipment and are reputable SCUBA shops. Give their sites a visit, we think you will be pleased with their GOODIES.



**SCUBA World**

1706 N Tustin St, Orange, CA 92865

(714) 998-6382



17487 Imperial Hwy  
Yorba Linda, Ca 92886  
(714) 524-2770

<http://www.grazianosrestaurants.com/>



**HOLLYWOOD DIVERS**

# Club Information



Monthly club meetings  
with speakers and raffle  
prizes  
Monthly Newsletter  
Land-based Club activities  
and events for the whole  
family  
Organized local dives  
Resort warm-water trips  
Good dives and good  
buddies  
Membership costs are as  
follows . . .  
New Membership:  
Single \$40 pp  
Family \$50 (couple/family)  
Renewal:  
Single \$30  
Family \$40

membership renewals are  
due in February for all  
current members. New  
members dues will be  
prorated depending on the  
month they join the club



**SCUBA World**



## Club Board Members

### President/Speakers/Boat Dives/Webmaster

Vlad Ilinsky  
vilinsky88@gmail.com

### Vice President/Membership/Facebook (social media)

Alf Johnson  
alfjohnson1@gmail.com

### Secretary/Beach Dives

Martin Carreon  
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### Treasurer/Boat Dives

Dave Stewart  
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### Co-Social Media (Meetup) Warm Water Trip

Silvia Swigert  
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### Co-Warm Water Trip

Jeff Tunstall  
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### Co-Social Media (Facebook)

Mark Williamson  
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### Marketing

Shai Maymon  
vishigishi55@yahoo.com

### Honorary Board Members

Dave Goodale  
Randy Garzes

## Club Contact/Social Media Information

### Website

Sharkbaitdiveclub.org

### Meetup

SharkBait Dive Club of Brea

### Facebook

SharkBait Dive Club - SoCal

### Twitter

@sharkbait diver

### Scubaboard

Scubaboard.com