



SharkBait Dive Club

February Speaker Casey Connel

Technical Diving

Casey Connell PADI Course Director

Casey Connell discovered scuba diving in 1968 and embraced it wholeheartedly — so much so that he retired from technology in 2002 and became a full-time instructor! “I fell in love with being underwater. It’s my passion and I live it every day. Besides, beats designing a computer network,” he jokes.



As Casey tells it "At the age of 13, as a Boy Scout, my troop leader (ex Navy BUDS) offered scuba training to several scouts. This started my journey down the road. After college and time served, I found myself involved in Search and Recovery operations for county and state teams in Georgia. In 1996, I became a PADI instructor. In 2002, I stepped away from my corporate management lifestyle to pursue this incredible adventure."

Since leaving high-tech, Casey has been certified by PADI to teach over 25 different specialties. He’s dived all over the world, including Mexico, Malaysia, the Red Sea and the Philippines. He particularly enjoys diving in over-head environments such as shipwrecks and caves.

Casey is a Certified as a Tec Rec diver and instructor. PADI's Tech offerings include over 20 courses from decompression diving, mixed gas diving, rebreather, sidemount and many others. Casey will fill us in on what it is like to be a Technical Diver and why we might want to pursue Technical Diving.

Tech Divers get to explore where few people can. As a technical diver, you would get to see amazing wrecks that are hidden away and untouched, as well as marine life that don't live in your typical diving zone.

February Black History Month

February 13 Club Meeting
Graziano's Italian Yorba Linda

February 14 Valentine's Day

February 17 Boat Dive Seas the Day
Cee Ray to Catalina

February 18 Beach Dive
Little Corona, Corona Del Mar

February 19 President's Day

February 22 National California Day

February 24 Catalina Harbor Underwater
Cleanup Avalon Ca.

February 24 - 25 Travel & Adventure
show LA Convention Center

March 2 Dr. Seuss Day

March 3 National Anthem Day

March 3 - 4, 10 - 11 Festival of Whales
Dana Point

March 7 - 11 Fred Hall Fishing Show
Long Beach Convention Center

March 8 International Womens Day

March 18 Beach dive
Shaw's Cove Laguna Beach



Volunteer Opportunity to Help Out and Have Fun

New SharkBait member Bill Maley belongs to an organization which provides rescue standby for boating and water-ski racing events in our area. The organization, West Coast Mobile Incident (WMI Rescue), is a preferred rescue provider for aquatic racing in the South Western United States.

Their mission statement, "To be the leader in aquatic event medicine services, by providing and investing in the medical safety and protection for all participants. We strive to improve the medical handling of participants and to give them the best opportunity for a positive outcome so they can enjoy their sport and know a trained professional is there to take care of them."

Bill is looking for more volunteers to join their team in supporting water borne racing in our area. A requirement for divers is being an advanced diver by either certification or experience. For Medic, the requirement is for EMT certification or higher.



Duties for divers include being on standby in case a water extraction are necessary during an event. If nothing happens, it's a nice day on the water watching boats race some with 1000 horsepower and achieving speeds over 100 mph. In the event of an incident, assisting in getting participants out of the water and to safety is a great reward. In addition lodging, roundtrip fuel and some other expenses of

participating are covered.

Contact Bill at wotbill@cox.net or call at 949-933- 6754 for more information and to join WMI Rescue.

A flyer on the next page provides some additional information.



Divers and Medics Needed

Rescue Standby for Boat & Waterski Racing.



Schedule: Weekends most months. No minimum attendance.

Locations: Parker, Elsinore, Havasu, Mission Bay

Reimbursement: Lodging, Fuel, Food & Other (\$50+/day)

Training: In-water extrication and immobilization. First Aid & Oxygen certification.

Medics = EMT or higher. Comfortable in the water.

Divers = Advanced by certification or experience.

Contact

Lead Medic: Bill Maley wotbill@cox.net (949) 933-6754

Lead Diver: Dan Eisenbeisz dan@isnbice.com (949) 510-3362

Website: <http://www.meetup.com/wmi-corp-water-rescue>

Whales and Sharks Are the New Victims of Our Plastic Waste, Study Finds

From Futurism.com

IN BRIEF

Bottles and six-pack rings aren't the only plastics that harm marine life. A new study shows microplastics are just as dangerous for some whales and sharks.

PLASTIC MENACE

Typically when we think of marine plastic pollution, images of turtles caught in plastic six-pack rings or seabirds choking on floating plastic debris come to mind. But that plastic doesn't have to be visible to naked eye to have detrimental impacts. A new study found that the smallest plastic particles can affect the largest ocean animals. Researchers from the U.S., Australia, and Italy wrote that some whale and shark species are at risk from microplastic pollution — minuscule particles of plastics that float, unseen, in oceans worldwide.

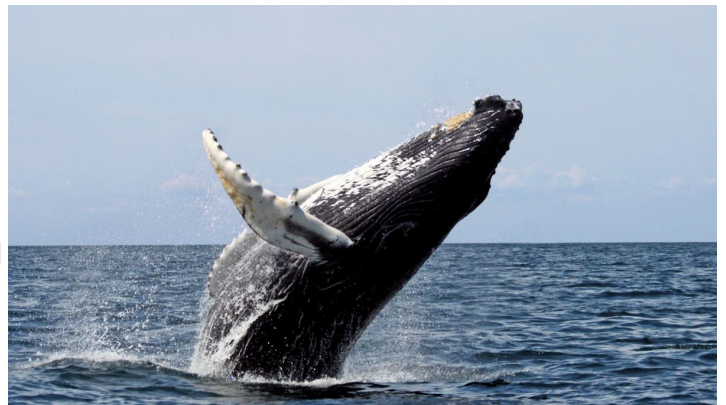
The study, published in the journal *Trends in Ecology and Evolution*, revealed that marine animals like whale sharks, basking sharks, and other filter-feeders are ingesting tiny plastic particles that can block their ability to absorb nutrients. These particles could have toxic side effects too.

Filter-feeders include baleen whale species, like Humpbacks, Grey whales and Blue whales, that have no teeth. Instead the baleen whales have a keratin-based filter that they use to strain food like krill and plankton out of the water. These animals sometimes imbibe thousands of cubic meters of seawater a day in order to get their fill of plankton. Now, the researchers discovered that while the filter-feeders are filtering out and munching on their plankton meals, they're also ingesting potentially toxic plastic particles. These microplastics are less than five millimeters long, are about the same size as a plankton snack.

Whale species that have baleen filter in microplastics with seawater. Baleen whale species, like the Humpback whale, ingest plastic when they filter plankton out of seawater.

Elitza Germanov, a co-author of the study and researcher at the Marine Megafauna Foundation, told the *Guardian*, "Despite the growing research on microplastics in the marine environment, there are only a few studies that examine the effects on large filter feeders. We are still trying to understand the magnitude of the issue. It has become clear, though, that microplastic contamination has the potential to further reduce the population numbers of these species, many of which are long-lived and have few offspring throughout their lives."

Image Credit: Wikimedia.



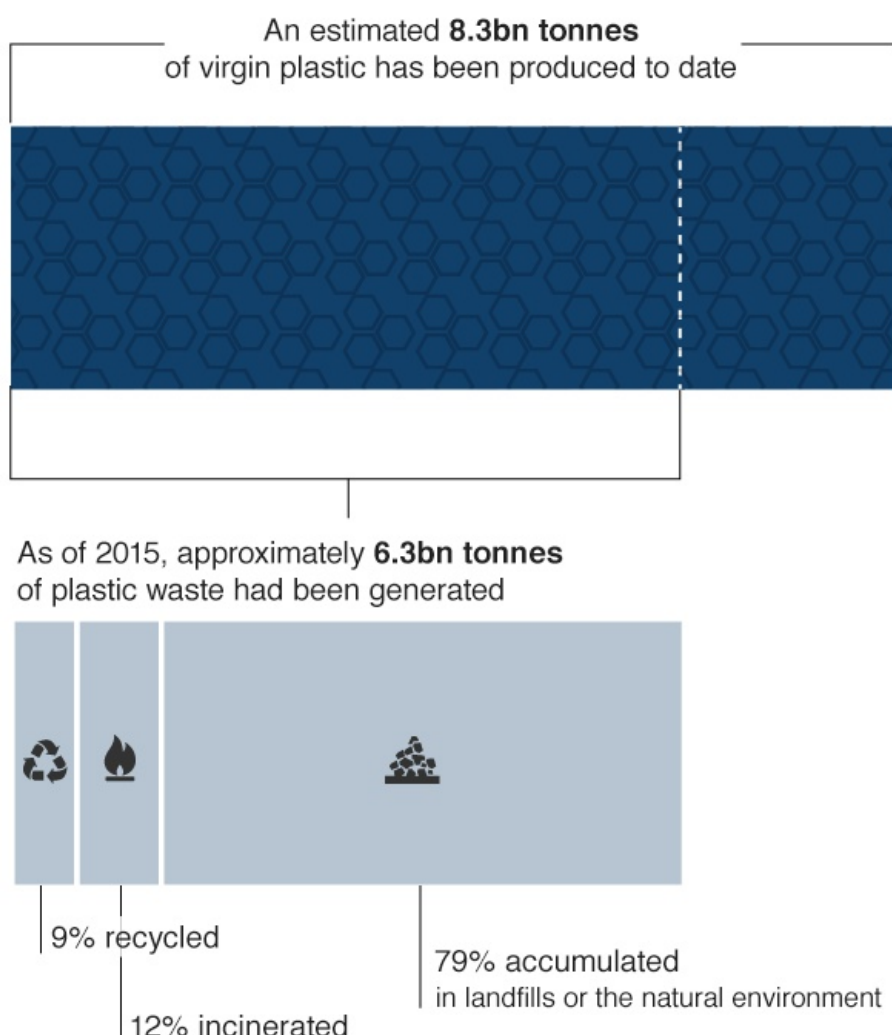
WHALES AT RISK

Whale carcasses have washed up on shores around the world with large pieces of plastic waste in their stomachs, smoking guns in the case against growing plastic pollution. But microplastics are often overlooked. This study shows that large marine animals — already threatened by overfishing — are more at-risk than we thought.

Microplastics can come from a variety of sources. These plastics can be the remnants of larger plastic pieces that degraded over time and broke apart in the water. But they can also come from everyday, household products that contain plastic microbeads, like exfoliating soaps and toothpaste.

Solutions to the growing problem of plastic pollution aren't as simple as "don't wash your face with these soaps" or "recycle carefully." Companies need to phase out products containing plastic microbeads, governments need to find ways to remove microplastics from the water, and groups like the Monterey Bay Aquarium need to continue educating the public about the issue of plastic pollution. Whales and sharks are the pillars of their ecosystems. If these large animals are pushed to extinction, it could irrevocably alter these delicate marine ecosystems.

How much plastic is there?



If current production and waste management trends continue, roughly **12bn tonnes** of plastic waste will be in landfills or the natural environment by 2050.

Upcoming 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 dive, E-mail Martin at n1diver@aol.com or call at 714-833-9167.



www.clipartof.com · 441036

Beach Dive February 18 Little Corona Newport Beach
7:00 AM

Little Corona has a good supply of sightseeing and photo subject matter. On the reefs, in water 20 feet and deeper, small gorgonian sea fans, starfish, feather worms and assorted invertebrates can be found. Visibility is generally good. Water clarity on the outer reefs can reach 30 feet but is generally in the 15 to 20 feet range.



The reefs start shallow and slopes gradually to 30 feet 150 yards out. The reefs lie on either side of a sandy cove with the more interesting reefs to the south side.

Little Corona is located in Corona Del Mar and is easily reached by turning toward the ocean from PCH onto Poppy Street. Poppy will end overlooking the ocean and turn into Ocean Blvd. the path to Little Corona is just left of this intersection. A paved path winds down to the beach. Restrooms and showers are located half way down the path.

Look for Martin.



Boat Dive March 17 Cee Ray to Catalina by Seas the Day

Details

3 dives

Bring your own tank and gear (air fills on boat)

Boarding - 6am

Cost - \$140, includes food and air fills.

Please call or visit the Seas The Day Store in Brea as soon as possible to make your reservation. Spots for this trip normally fill quickly. Scuba gear also available for rent.

Seas The Day Scuba
1039 E. Imperial Hwy
Suite F1
Brea, CA 92821
(949) 220-0500

Beach Dive March 18 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.

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.

Renewal dues schedule is: Single \$30
Family \$40



So,,,,,,,,,what do you get for your money???????

From Seas the Day SCUBA:

*10 free air fills, or 5 free nitrox fills

*10% discount on all merchandise except cameras and camera equipment, weights and cylinders (very skimpy markup on these items)

*discounts on boat trips with the club

*Group rates on warm water dive trips

Monthly Meetings

Summer Get Together and Winter Party, food and entertainment supplied by the club.

See Alf Johnson at the meeting to renew your membership.



Upcoming Classes

Continuing education courses are designed to advance your diving skills and keep you doing what you love. You can start right after earning your Open Water Diver certification.

Taking another dive course will help you gain more confidence and enhance your scuba skills so you can find new ways to explore the underwater world.

Open Water Classes: Jan. 20 - 28, Feb. 3 - 11.

Advanced Open Water: Jan. 20 - 21.

EFR: Jan. 23 & 25.

Rescue: Jan. 27 - 28.



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WIES—CCD 37th Annual Avalon Harbor Underwater Cleanup
37th Annual Avalon Harbor Underwater Cleanup
Saturday, February 24th, 2018

USC's Catalina Hyperbaric Chamber and Wrigley Institute for Environmental Studies—Catalina Conservation Divers are proud to host Catalina Island's 37th Avalon Harbor Underwater Cleanup, one of the largest annual dive events in Southern California. The event began in the 1970s in an effort to cleanup Avalon Harbor, and this event is the only time diving is permitted in the Harbor.

Southern California divers have made the Avalon Harbor Underwater Cleanup one of their premier social events of the year. Divers retrieve trash and lost items from Avalon Harbor, and revel in the warm friendly atmosphere of Catalina Island. Last year, approximately 494 participants recovered 5,200 pounds of trash. Proceeds from the event will benefit USC's Catalina Hyperbaric Chamber and Wrigley Institute Scientific Diving Program.



Registration

Register online at www.usc.edu/esvp, code: 37thCleanup

Divers:

\$45 Early registration through January 4th

\$55 January 5th – February 15th

\$65 Day-of Registration at Wrigley Stage

Each diver must bring the following completed forms to check-in.

Safe Diving Practices Form (PDF)

Informed Consent and Waiver of Release Form (PDF)

Schedule of Events

7:00-9:00 AM	Check-in for Pre-registered Divers (Dive Locations)
7:00-9:00 AM	Day-of Registration (Wrigley Stage)
9:00 AM	Dive Master/Diver Orientations (Dive Locations)
9:30-11:00 AM	Divers in Water (Dive Locations)
11:00 AM	All Divers Out of Water (MANDATORY)
1:00 PM	Door Prize Drawing (Wrigley Stage)



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 !!!!



1039 E. Imperial Hwy, Suite F1
Brea, CA 92821

Tel. 949.220.0500

Mon Closed
Tue – Sat 10am – 7pm
Sun 12pm – 6pm



17487 Imperial Hwy
Yorba Linda, Ca 92886
(714) 524-2770
<http://www.grazianosrestaurants.com/>

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

Dive Club members will receive from Seas the Day SCUBA

*10 free air fills, or 5 free nitrox fills

*10% discount on all merchandise except cameras and camera equipment, weights and cylinders (very skimpy markup on these items)

*discounts on boat trips with the club.

Club Board Members

President/Speakers/Webmaster

Vlad Ilinsky
vilinsky88@gmail.com

Vice President/Membership

Alf Johnson
alfjohnson1@gmail.com

Secretary/Beach Dives

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Treasurer/Boat Dives

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Co-Social Media (Meetup) Warm Water Trip

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Seas the Day Liaison/Beach Dives

Kevin Streeter
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Honorary Board Member

Randy Garzes

Club Contact/Social Media Information

Website

Sharkbaitdiveclub.org

Facebook

SharkBait Dive Club - SoCal

Twitter

@sharkbait diver

Scubaboard

Scubaboard.com