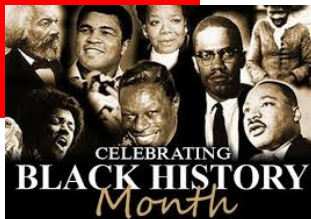




2019



## Board of Directors, Officers and Responsibilities

The 2019 Board met on January 21st to elect officers for the coming term and to assign responsibilities to Board members. The officers and board member responsibilities are as follows:

President	Vlad Ilinsky
Vice-President	Silvia Swigert
Secretary/Treasurer	Alf Johnson
Board Member	Martin Carreon
Board Member	Barry Bloch
Board Member	Monica Villegas

### Responsibilities

Vlad Ilinsky -	Speakers, Webmaster
Alf Johnson -	Membership, Newsletter
Barry Bloch -	Boat Dives
Silvia Swigert-	Publicity, Meetup, Warm Water Trips, Facebook
Martin Carreon -	Beach Dive
Monica Villegas-	Co-Warm Water Trips

## 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

See Alf Johnson at the meeting to renew your membership.

### SAVE THE DATE

COMING  
UP

February 10 7:00 AM Beach Dive  
Balboa Pier, Newport Beach

February 12 Club Meeting  
Graziano's Italian, Yorba Linda

February 23 Catalina Cleanup  
Avalon, Catalina

March 9 Diver Day  
Aquarium of the Pacific Long Beach

March TBD Boat Dive  
Sundiver Express to Catalina

March 17 7:00 AM Beach Dive  
Crescent Bay, Laguna Beach

May 5-6 SCUBA Show  
Long Beach



## February 2019 Meeting

We started off the new year with a presentation of the Club trip to Grenada, replete with video, pictures and narratives summarizing what we saw and what we did.. We had 7 days of relaxation, fun, diving, eating and sightseeing. This trip was everything a dive vacation should be.



We spent 7 days in an absolutely idyllic location. The water and the beaches didn't look real, they were so picture postcard perfect. 10 of us had an excellent time above and under the water. Join us on Tuesday the 8th as we recount some of our experiences and show some pictures and videos from the trip.



For those of you wondering, where in the dickens is Grenada (remember the 1984 war to free Grenada?), here it is on the map



# 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](mailto:n1diver@aol.com) or call at 714-833-9167.



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

## February Beach Dive Balboa Pier February 10 7:00 AM

The Balboa Pier offers an interesting dive for the adventurer. You can dive to 100 feet or more if you want to go beyond the pier; you can traverse the bottom looking for the creatures-of-the-sand; or you can explore under the pier for piling creatures or artifacts from the fishermen above!

This is probably the easiest Southern California beach dive you can do. Just walk out on the beach, no stairs or ramps to negotiate. A quick shuffle through the surf and you then fin under the pier and make a surface swim to the beginning of the rectangular platform at the end.

This is an arduous environment, subjected to high surf and the seasons, yet there was a proliferation of life under the pier. Here you will see Bryozoan carpets on the bottom making a nursery for juvenile fish, crabs and nudibranchs. Bundles of fishing line make a home for pipefish. Empty clamshells make a home for bay blennies. A discarded PVC pipe makes a home for sarcastic fringeheads. An empty shell makes a home for a small octopus. Crabs of many flavors enjoy the bounty of discarded fileted fish from the fisherman above.

The pier is located on the Balboa Peninsula. From the North, take 55 Fwy South to the end where it empties onto Newport Blvd. Continue south and Newport Blvd. transitions to Balboa Blvd. Follow the signs to the pier. There is plenty of parking, for a fee of course, it is Newport Beach after all. Look for Martin





## Sharkbait Dive Club Invitation to Taveuni Island (Fiji)

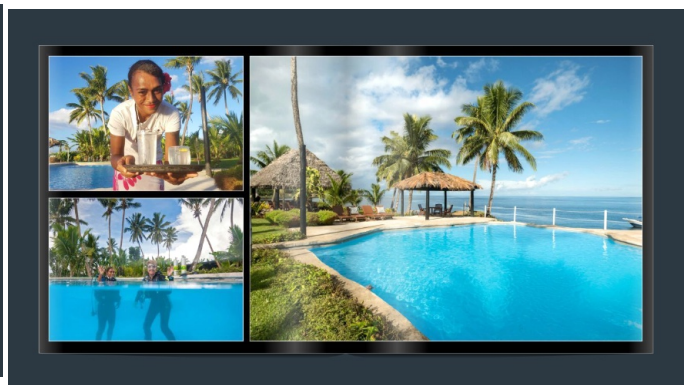
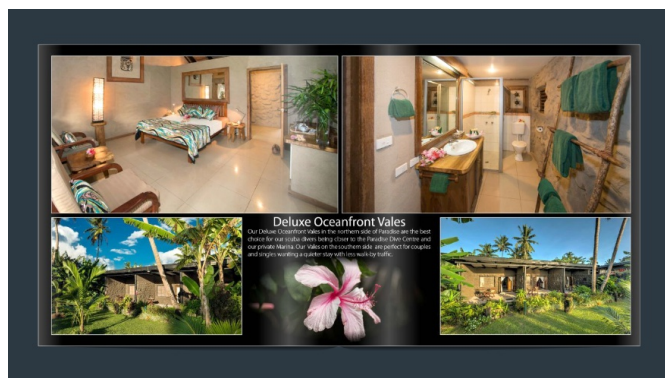
Join us for 10 days of warm water; sun drenched white sands, waterfalls, spectacular diving, good food and good company. Divers and non-divers alike are welcome. Fed by the nutrient-rich waters that flow through the Somosomo Straits, Taveuni's Rainbow Reef is home to one of the world's greatest displays of soft coral. Journey through national rainforest parks, coastal walks where the jungle meets the ocean, visit gorgeous white sand beaches and waterfalls that plunge into the sea, visit secluded spots like Devoux Peak where you might spot the Tagimoucia flower, found only on Taveuni, or the Orange Dove and the Silktail, rare bird species only to be found on this island.



When: August 11-21, 2019

The Resort: Paradise Taveuni Resort ([www.paradiseinfiji.com](http://www.paradiseinfiji.com))

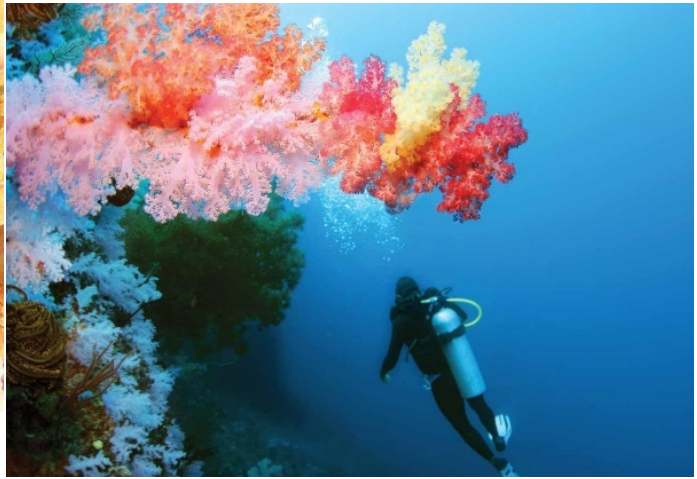
The Paradise Taveuni Resort still offers 16 accommodation choices. These include all brand new Deluxe Oceanfront Bures, Deluxe Oceanfront Vales, Deluxe Oceanfront Family Vales, Oceanview Bures and Oceanview Family Bures. Each of our newly built lodgings includes ocean views from each room, tropical outdoor shower in your own private lava-rock garden, generous king bed, spacious deck to read and enjoy the views and air conditioning. All Fiji government taxes (25%), transfers, are included. Resort amenities include air-conditioning, spa, and all-inclusive dining (breakfast, lunch, dinner). Free WIFI in main Bure.



### The Diving:

The Dive Center offers full service. Unlimited shore diving during store hours. Twenty-one dive sites on the Rainbow Reef; blue sharks, giant clams, soft and hard corals, nudibranchs, leaf fish, bull sharks, barracudas, and sea snakes are some of the reef life to be seen. We will also be there at the right time for the Great White Wall dives (30 minutes from the resort). Dubbed as 'One of the Top 10 Dive Sites in the World' by legendary scuba diver, Cousteau himself, the Great White Wall is a sheer wall of white soft corals and is best seen and accessed on a slack low tide.





## **The Particulars**

Paradise Taveuni\*

Double occupancy: \$2,200 per person for 10 nights

Single occupancy: \$2,740 per person for 10 nights\*\*

Non-Diver: \$ 930 per person for 10 nights

\*All-inclusive rates \*\*2 Singles can share a bathroom in a Family Bure for a double occupancy rate

Family Bure: <https://www.paradiseinfiji.com/oceanview-family-bures/>

Ocean View Bure: <https://www.paradiseinfiji.com/oceanview-bure/>

### **Diving**

15 boat dives + FREE shore dives daily from 7am – 5pm + 2 Night Dives on the house reef (lots of critters). Nitrox is available at \$10 per tank. Weights, tanks, and a guide are included.

Book by May 11, 2019

Deposit of \$286 to secure a reservation. Full refund of deposit for cancellation until May 11, 2019. Pay in full by May 11, 2019.

Air Fare: (not included)

Currently airfare on Fiji Air is about \$1,200 RT for a nonstop flight. A discount may be available with group booking.

### **Other Info**

A valid passport within 6 months of travel is required.

CONTACT: Email Silvia at [SharkBaitDive@gmail.com](mailto:SharkBaitDive@gmail.com)

## Did You Know???

### There are waterfalls in the ocean.

Technically, the Earth's largest known waterfall lies between Greenland and Iceland — underwater. In an article for Conde Nast Traveler, Jeopardy champ Ken Jennings wrote about the Denmark Strait cataract, an underwater waterfall with 175 million cubic feet (5.0 million cubic meters) of water dropping a whopping 11,500 feet (3,505 m).

The waterfall is formed by the temperature difference between the water on each side of the Denmark Strait. When the colder, denser water from the East meets the warmer, lighter water from the West, the cold water flows down and underneath the warm water.

The Denmark Strait cataract is more than three times the height of Angel Falls in Venezuela, which is considered Earth's highest aboveground uninterrupted waterfall. The Denmark Strait cataract carries almost 2,000 times the amount of water of Niagara Falls at peak flow, according to Jennings.

### Ocean Acidification

To understand ocean acidification, you must first understand the pH scale: the potential of hydrogen. The pH scale runs from 0 to 14, with 0 being completely acidic, 14 being completely basic, and pure water (with a pH of 7) being considered completely neutral. For reference, battery acid is a 0 on the pH scale, lemon juice is a 2, and bleach is very basic at 11. The ocean is generally slightly basic, at 8.1–8.2. To many, this begs the question, if the ocean is basic, why are we so worried about acidification? Well, acidification, which is caused by carbon dioxide diffusing into the ocean, forms a weak acid called carbonic acid. An acidic liquid has more free-floating hydrogen atoms, which is bad for marine species because hydrogen loves to bond with other elements, particularly the building blocks of calcium carbonate ( $\text{CaCO}_3$ ). Calcium

carbonate is the substance that makes up the shells of crustaceans and many other marine species. Over time, acidification will not only break down calcium carbonate shells, but it will also make it more difficult to form them in the first place. All of that science jargon aside, this is a huge threat to our oceans because most marine species are extremely sensitive to pH changes. Since preindustrial times, the ocean's pH has changed by 0.1, which may sound small but is actually a 30-percent change. So you may have heard the term "ocean acidification" before, but now you can describe it in obnoxious detail at your next outing.

### Why Are The Oceans Blue?

One of the most indelible features of the oceans is the deep blue waters that are continually churning, rolling, and coming in waves. The color is the result of the sun's red and orange wavelengths being absorbed by the surface and its blue wavelengths penetrating deeper, giving way to a blue tint (remember Roy G Biv?). And because those wavelengths can travel further down, the ocean will tend to appear more blue the lower you go. Why isn't water in a glass blue when you're sitting outdoors? There aren't enough molecules to absorb the light.

## WIES–CCD 38th Annual Avalon Harbor Underwater Cleanup

Saturday, February 23rd, 2019

Register on-line

USC's Catalina Hyperbaric Chamber and Wrigley Institute for Environmental Studies–Catalina Conservation Divers are proud to host Catalina Island's 38th 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 498 participants recovered 2,320 pounds of trash. Proceeds from the event will benefit USC's Catalina Hyperbaric Chamber and Wrigley Institute Scientific Diving Program.



Divers:

\$45 Early registration through January 3  
\$55 January 4 – February 14  
\$65 Day-of Registration at Wrigley Stage

Each diver must bring the following completed forms to check-in. (available on-line)

Safe Diving Practices Form (PDF)

Informed Consent and Waiver of Release Form (PDF)

Streamline your dive team's registration process! Adding your dive team to the registration page allows your divers to register individually or as a group—All you have to do is assign a team leader for day-of collection of dive forms. For more information please contact Katie Chvostal at [chvostal@usc.edu](mailto:chvostal@usc.edu).



Non-Divers: \$30



## Schedule of Events

7:00-8:45 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)
1:00-3:00 PM	Award Ceremony (Wrigley Stage)



## Shark Fin Trade Bill Reintroduced as HR 737 in 116th Congress

Shark Stewards

JAN 25, 2019 —

A bipartisan group of dozens of House lawmakers reintroduced legislation in the House on Wednesday January 23, 2019 that would make it illegal to buy or sell shark fins.

The bill, led by Del. Gregorio Sablan (D-Northern Mariana Islands) and Rep. Michael McCaul (R-Texas), is meant to further crack down on shark finning, in which fishermen remove fins and release the rest of the animal into the ocean to die. It will further restrict trade of fins from overfished and endangered sharks and help strengthen fisheries.

Contact Your Representatives and Your Senators Directly and urge them to support the Shark Fin Trade Elimination Act of 2019.

History First introduced in 2016, this law that will eliminate the US trade of threatened, endangered and sharks finned illegally or in countries without shark finning laws. The bill has passed through the Senate and House Committees in 2018.

Representative Sablan first introduced the legislation, known as the Shark Fin Trade Elimination Act, in 2016, modeling it after a similar law in the Northern Mariana Islands. Then-Rep. Ed Royce (R-Calif.) was the lead Republican sponsor at the time, but he retired from Congress this month.

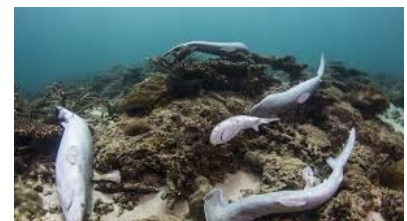
H.R.737 — 116th Congress (2019-2020) To prohibit the sale of shark fins, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep. Sablan, Gregorio Kilili Camacho [D-MP-At Large] (Introduced 01/23/2019)

Cosponsors: (68)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 01/23/2019 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.



# 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

## Club Board Members

### President

Speakers/Webmaster  
Vlad Ilinsky  
vilinsky88@gmail.com

### Vice President

Publicity/Social Media, Warm Water Trips  
Silvia Swigert  
silviaswigerts@gmail.com

### Secretary/Treasurer

Membership/Newsletter  
Alf Johnson  
alfjohnson1@gmail.com

### Beach Dives

Martin Carreon  
n1diver@aol.com

### Warm Water Trips

Monica Villegas  
rescue1grl@gmail.com

### Boat Dives

Barry Bloch

### Board Member Emeritus

Randy Garzes

## Club Contact/Social Media Information

Website

[Sharkbaitdiveclub.org](http://Sharkbaitdiveclub.org)

Facebook

SharkBait Dive Club - SoCal

Twitter

@sharkbait diver

Scubaboard

[Scubaboard.com](http://Scubaboard.com)