

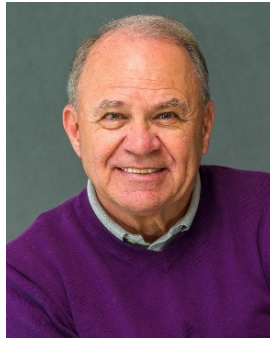
# APRIL

2020



**Topic: Shark Bait Dive Club Monthly Meeting**  
**Time: Apr 14, 2020 06:30 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)**

Join us at our virtual monthly meeting with our invited guest speaker, Ken Kurtis of Chamber Day 2020, which is completely online this year. Participate in great raffles and support the Chamber. Ken will also bring us up to date on the Conception tragedy "The Conception Fire 6 Months Later: What We Know & What We Don't Know."



Catch up with fellow divers and sign up for international trips. Family friendly!

As the owner of Reef Seekers Dive Company, Ken 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 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, ran five L.A. Marathons, and is kind to

April 14 Club Meeting  
On-Line Meeting via Zoom See article on the left for details

April 19 Beach Dive CANCELLED  
Crescent Bay 7:00 AM

May 6 Chamber Day/Eve See Article next page

May 12 Club Meeting  
Maybe at Graziano's, maybe another Zoom meeting

May 30 - 31 SCUBA Show  
Long Beach Convention Center



## Speaker Continued

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.

## Instructions

Please log on 10 minutes ahead of the start of the meeting in case there are issues that we can handle before the meeting begins. If you are on Meetup (<https://www.meetup.com/Shark-Bait-Dive-Club-Meetup>), you can message us there or use [sharkbaitdive@gmail.com](mailto:sharkbaitdive@gmail.com) to get assistance or ask questions before the meeting. Once in the meeting, your microphones will be muted and your video shut off for best presentation practices. However everyone is encouraged to use the Chat box to ask questions regarding club business or our guest speaker. The presiding officer will monitor the Chat to reply as best as possible. Club officers will have their cameras turned on for their reports. Everyone is encouraged to view their video setting to be sure it is clear of anything that might be privacy-challenged. This meeting is limited to the first 100 attendees.

## Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/654672974?pwd=dUJxV3dGVHhld0hUWGJTL29pc0o5dz09>

Or just Google Zoom and click on Join a Meeting

Meeting ID: 654 672 974

Password: 853707

## Some Distractions to Take Our Attention Away from Isolating

I saw an ad for burial plots, and I thought:  
"That's the last thing I need!"

I used to be indecisive; now I'm not so sure

A recent study has found that people who carry a little extra weight live longer than the people who mention it.

Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit.  
Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.

Worrying works! More than 90 percent of the things I worry about never happen.

I don't have an attitude problem. You have a perception problem.

You don't need a parachute to go skydiving.  
You need a parachute to go skydiving twice.

Why does someone believe you when you say there are four billion stars but checks when you say the paint is wet?

There are three kinds of people: those who can count and those who can't.

Why do chicken coups always have two doors?

With four, they'd be chicken sedans.

What do you call a guy with a rubber toe?  
Roberto.

What did one shark say to the other as he ate a clownfish?

Well this tastes a little funny.



## **32nd ANNUAL CHAMBER DAY**

**Wednesday, May 6th, 2020**

**CHAMBER EVENING GRAND PRIZE**

**WEEK OF DIVING IN YAP AT FABULOUS MANTA RAY BAY RESORT!**

**(ONLY those who "attend" Chamber Evening are eligible to win)**

### **CHAMBER DAY 2020 IS CHANGING DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS**

The USC Catalina Hyperbaric Chamber is dedicated to diver safety and as such, we put the well-being of everyone, diver or non-diver, first. This includes our fund-raising efforts. While the need for public funding of our Chamber is very real and ongoing, it cannot override our responsibility to safety and the mitigation of risk.

Current guidelines for dealing with COVID-19 discourage group gatherings. Accordingly, and in our commitment to keep people safe, aspects of Chamber Day that require in-person attendance (Chamber Day dives and the Chamber Evening dinner) have been modified. Here's what's happening:

#### **IF YOU NORMALLY DIVE CHAMBER DAY**

Sign up for the Flying Dutchman (\$95) instead. You'll get a unique Dutchman t-shirt, you choose your "pirate" name which will be in a mosaic on the front of the shirt, and you'll get raffle tickets. And if you still want a Day shirt, you can order one for an extra \$20.

#### **IF YOU NORMALLY "DIVE" THE DUTCHMAN**

Nothing changes. Please sign up, give us your "pirate" name, and whichever store or club referred you.

#### **IF YOU NORMALLY COME TO CHAMBER EVE**

This is where it gets interesting. We have created virtual "tables" for each store/club/group who would have had one at the Aquarium. We hope you'll still sign up for a "seat" as you would normally. Instead of feeding you dinner, we will give you a short-sleeved Chamber Eve t-shirt instead. There will still be raffle tickets, and we're working on a plan to live-stream the evening to make it a real virtual event. All the money raised this way will become part of what we're calling the "Table Challenge," which will be a subset of the Chamber Challenge.

#### **IF YOU NORMALLY DONATE TO THE CHAMBER CHALLENGE**

Please do so. We absolutely need the help.

We will also continue to take orders on-line for t-shirts.

It's impractical for us to postpone this event to another date. However, the money raised from this event is needed in a timely fashion to cover on-going Chamber expenses.

The need for financial support from the diving community is real and even more urgent this year with everything else that's going on.

Chamber Day 2020 is NOT being cancelled, it's merely been altered to conform to the new realities with which we all need to cope. We hope you'll understand and, as importantly, we hope you'll still have our backs with your continued financial support.

For more information about these can't-miss events, check us out (new this year) on Instagram:

@usc\_hyperbaric\_chamber. You can sign up here, or you can call Chamber Day HQ at 310-652-4990. Mark your calendar for Wednesday, May 6 and Chamber Day 2020

We appreciate your generous support!!!

Ken Kurtis (Chairman, Chamber Day 2020)

&

Karl Huggins (Director, USC Catalina Hyperbaric Chamber)

## About the Tall Ship Pilgrim...

### We are very sad to share this heartbreaking news

Today, we share news that hurts our hearts.

We are very sad to announce that the Pilgrim, our beloved tall ship vessel that has served as an inspiring real-world classroom to hundreds of thousands of students and visitors, keeled overnight in her slip on our dock, rendering her useful life over.

As part of our maintenance process, the Pilgrim, built in 1945, undergoes out-of-the water and underwater inspections. In 2016 she was hauled out for survey and repairs and in October 2019, we began a fund to support the haul out and repair scheduled to take place in January 2020. The haul out was postponed until June due to overload at the yard. Meanwhile, Ocean Institute maintained our certifications and the United States Coast Guard issued a Certificate of Inspection (COI) in December and again in February, allowing our dockside programs to continue. Unfortunately, the Pilgrim keeled on March 29th and is incapacitated beyond repair.

We are sad to bid farewell to this iconic vessel which has been such an important part of Ocean Institute's programs and to the children that they served.

Our staff was informed this morning and we all feel like we lost a dear friend, as I am sure many of you do.

As previously communicated, Ocean Institute has been dealt very difficult blows this month (SEE VIDEO HERE) and your stories, encouragement, and support keeps us going and lifts our spirits during this devastating time.

Thank you,

Wendy

Dr. Wendy Marshall

President, Ocean Institute

24200 Dana Point Harbor Drive

Dana Point, CA 92629

[www.oceaninstitute.org](http://www.oceaninstitute.org)





## New Beach Dive Central Location –Our Meetup Discussion Page

Our Meetup <https://www.meetup.com/Shark-Bait-Dive-Club-Meetup> is the place for our members and friends to add their own beach dive plans, in addition to the official club beach dives that are pre-planned, usually once per month. Sometimes conditions don't cooperate or your equipment isn't ready and you might want to dive on a different day or place than the club Divemaster has selected. If you haven't signed up for Meetup yet, go to our page and simply join. Then go the More tab and select Discussions.

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the 'Shark Bait Beach Dive Discussion' group page on Meetup.com. The browser's address bar shows the URL: [meetup.com/Shark-Bait-Dive-Club-Meetup/messages/boards/thread/52620896/#132368285](https://www.meetup.com/Shark-Bait-Dive-Club-Meetup/messages/boards/thread/52620896/#132368285). The browser's taskbar at the bottom shows various icons including Windows, search, and several applications like Edge, File Explorer, and Outlook.

The Meetup page has a red header with navigation tabs: About, Events, Members, Photos, Discussions, and More (highlighted in red). To the right of these tabs are 'Group tools' and 'My profile'.

On the left side, there is a sidebar for the group 'Yorba Linda, CA' (founded Feb 6, 2019). It includes an 'About us...' section, statistics (103 Members, 6 Upcoming events, 20 Past events, and an Our calendar icon), and a list of organizers starting with 'Silvia Swigert, Alf'. Below this is a 'We're about:' section listing activities like 'Outdoors · Scuba Diving', 'Scuba Instruction', 'Discover Scuba Diving', 'Diving · Dive Travel', 'Scuba Diving Travel', 'Advanced Scuba Diving', and 'Scuba Diving Adventures'.

The main content area is titled 'Shark Bait Beach Dive Discussion Group'. It features a sub-header 'Shark Bait Dive Club Meetup Message Board · Shark Bait Beach Dive Discussion Group'. Below this are several action links: 'Close to new replies', 'Pin this discussion', 'Start a new discussion', and 'Stop tracking this discussion'. There is also an 'Add a reply' button.

A post by 'Silvia Swigert' is shown, dated 'Posted 1/4/20 11:10 AM'. The post includes a profile picture of Silvia Swigert and the following text: 'Hello Meetup Members! The club will be using Meetup Discussions for updates on club planned beach dives (about once per month) as well as offering a place for you to set up your own beach dives or inquire about joining other beach dives any time of the month. I do recommend that a divemaster lead beach dives other our club dives, which are led by a divemaster, for safety sake. Let's see if this can work and keep on "California diving"! Cheers, Silvia Swigert, Shark Bait Publicity Chair'. The post has a 'Post #: 3' and an 'Add a reply' button.

At the bottom right of the main content area, it says 'Powered by mvnForum'.

## 2020 Warm Water Trip



### Little Cayman Beach Resort trip in November 2020

Dear fellow warm water dive trip participants,  
Greetings and hope this message finds everyone, family, and friends healthy, hopeful, and doing well.

First, I'd like to start by letting everyone know about some good alternatives regarding our scheduled trip to Little Cayman Beach Resort in November 2020. We cannot get a full refund of our initial deposit. Our original due date for trip balance payments was September, 2020. Current conditions limit our ability to book make flight arrangements and travel. I have been in touch with our travel agent and we agreed to the following:

1. I asked if it was possible to get a full refund for our deposits and was told at this time, it is not possible. I needed to ask to then negotiate some alternatives for us if the answer was no.
2. We will re-visit group travel plans in August 2020 and decide if we will continue with plans or possibly re-schedule our trip.
3. Our deposits would then carry over if we decide to re-schedule our trip. And this would even mean we could reschedule for up to a year!

I will continue to stay on top of changes for our trip. Stay healthy, hopeful, and know I am doing what I can to keep our trip as a positive future goal- be it this November or another agreed upon date!

I truly appreciate Sharkbait Dive Club and serving as your Warm Water Trip Coordinator. May the shared love for our oceans, passion for SCUBA diving, wonderful memories, friendships and future travel adventures ahead of us keep a happy thought in all our minds during this most difficult time. I look forward the hearing 'pool is open' and dive into more adventures with everyone.

Sincerely,

Your board member and 2020 warm water trip organizer, Monica Villegas

## **City of Laguna Beach acts to close trailheads and beaches to slow the spread of COVID-19**

From John Pietig, City Manager

The City of Laguna Beach continues to monitor the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and take the appropriate actions to prevent its spread. Over the weekend, a number of people traveled to Laguna Beach to enjoy the nice weather and in the process crowded our beachfront parks and trails. This afternoon, the Laguna Beach City Council met in an emergency closed session to consider the actions necessary to protect the public and prevent the spread of the coronavirus.

The Council voted to direct City staff to take the actions necessary to close trail access to the County wilderness parks tomorrow morning. The Council further directed staff to close City beaches on Monday night unless the County of Orange or the State of California does so before that time. Finally, the Council also directed the City staff to ask the County of Orange to close its beaches within the City or to grant the City permission to do so. The City beach closures would also include closure of the adjacent parks including Main Beach, Heisler, and Treasure Island Parks.

Governor Newsom's stay at home order permits outdoor activity as long as a safe social distance of six feet is maintained from people who are not part of the same household. Although many of our citizens are self-regulating and practicing social distancing, the increased number of people gathering on Laguna Beach trails, beaches, and in adjacent parks creates more opportunities for community spread of the virus. These public parks contain benches, railings, and structures that are high-touch areas and could potentially be a source of spread of COVID-19. The Council determined that closing these areas is prudent to reduce the potential spread of the virus and protect the public.

These actions are in addition to the City Council's prior actions to close basketball, tennis, and volleyball courts, along with all children's playgrounds.

In order to enforce the closures, the Laguna Beach Police Department will increase monitoring. Citizens who do not comply with the closure orders will receive citations.

"The safety of the public is our utmost concern, and this decision was not taken lightly by the City Council. We were unanimous that these steps must be taken now in our City to slow the spread of COVID-19. I urge everyone to comply with our actions for the health of everyone in our community and beyond," said Laguna Beach Mayor Bob Whalen.

The situation is fluid and information provided in this statement is subject to change. For more information on COVID-19, please go to [www.lagunabeachcity.net/coronavirus](http://www.lagunabeachcity.net/coronavirus).

# Upcoming Dives

## Beach Procedure

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.

**Because of the lockdown of facilities there will be no beach dives nor boat dives until facilities are opened and available and then only when it is safe to do so.**





# 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

Silvia Swigert  
silviaswigerts@gmail.com  
Marketing/Publicity, Speakers

### Vice President

Vlad Ilinsky  
vilinsky88@gmail.com  
Webmaster, Summer/Winter Club Parties

### Secretary/Treasurer

Alf Johnson  
alfjohnson1@gmail.com  
Newsletter, Membership

### Beach Dives

Martin Carreon  
n1diver@aol.com

### Warm Water Trips

Monica Villegas  
rescue1grl@gmail.com

### Boat Dives

Barry Bloch  
divingwetdog@yahoo.com

### Board Member

John Adams  
Club Supplies/Materials

### Board Member Emeritus

Randy Garzes

## Club Contact/Social Media Information

### Website

Sharkbaitdiveclub.org

### Facebook

SharkBait Dive Club - SoCal

### Twitter

@sharkbait diver

### Scubaboard

Scubaboard.com