



2024



### SharkBait Monthly Meeting

For you who have't been to a meeting for a while ..**We Moved.** Our new meeting place is Denny's in West Yorba Linda on Richfield just south of Yorba Linda Blvd (just south of the Mobil station on the corner). SOOOOOO, our meetingse will be in our new digs. We are excited about the move and can't wait to see you there. BTW, the food is good and the people are great.

For you on ZOOM, we love your participation and look forward to seeing you in digital.



- October 27 Beach Dive  
Pumpkin Carving Dive, Little Corona, Corona Del Mar 7:00 AM
- October 8 Club Meeting  
6:30 PM Denny's Diner Yorba Linda
- November 12 Club Meeting  
6:30 PM Denny's Diner Yorba Linda
- December 21 Newport Beach Holiday Boat Parade  
5:00 PM Boarding in Newport Beach

### Octoberr Speaker

Jonathon Casey, Aquarium of the Pacific

Johnathan Casey is the curator of fish and invertebrates who manages the Aquarium’s Shark Lagoon and the Southern California Gallery.

Jonathon has expertise in the conservation and culture of endangered white abalone, sea turtles, seagrass, and coral. Additionally he is skilled in ornamental aquaculture (rearing tropical fish popular amongst hobbyists), with a focus on finfish and sharks and rays. His expertise also includes species epidemiology, etiology, pathology, quarantine, and treatment. He enjoys working on creating exhibits, emphasizing authenticity to biotope (ecological community of a particular habitat).

Jonathon previously worked at various aquatic institutions in Hawaii. He received a B.Sc. in biology and minor in chemistry from George Fox University, studied marine biology at the University of Washington, and has been maintaining aquariums since he was five years old. He is an avid underwater photographer.

## October 27, Beach Dive Little Corona Newport Beach 7:00 AM Pumpkin Carving Dive

The October 27 Beach dive will be our pumpkin dive. The dive will be at Little Corona in Corona Del Mar (Newport Beach) The pumpkin dive will require you to take an UNCARVED pumpkin down with you. When on the bottom, you will carve your pumpkin, being careful not to injure yourself. Bring a bag with you to put the pumpkin in after it is carved, and a small weight as we will continue the dive, with the pumpkins. After the dive, the carved pumpkins will be judged for originality, beauty and art worthiness by a panel of international experts (we may have to substitute for the international experts as we are having trouble with visas and stuff). It will be a fun dive and a new experience for some of you.

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 slope 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.

## Boat Dive

We don't have a boat dive scheduled by press time. We will have an update at the meeting.





**Better sit down for these, they could have you in stitches**

I don't tell dad jokes that often. But when I do, he usually laughs.

What's the best way to get the hospital after breaking your foot? With a tow truck.

Why does a chicken coop only have two doors? Because if it had four it would be a sedan.

What did the pirate say on his birthday? "Aye, matey!"

I was going to tell a sodium joke, then I thought, "Na."

What's a witch's favorite subject in school? Spelling.

Why are frogs good at baseball? They know how to catch fly balls.

What's the easiest building to lift? A lighthouse.

Why do sweaters tend to hang out together? They're pretty close-knit.

Why did the zombie take a nap? He was dead tired.

Did you hear about the archeologist that got fired? Now his career is in ruins.

What did the buffalo say to her son on the first day of school? "Bison."

## **Newport Beach Christmas Boat Parade December 21, 5:00 PM**

Once again, the club has made arrangements for our club members to enjoy this Holiday spectacle.

The Christmas Boat Parade, which has been hailed as "one of the top ten holiday happenings in the nation" by the New York Times, is a magical holiday tradition for all ages. The parade continues to be a premier event during the holiday season in Southern California that brings joy and happiness to all that view it.

The Sharkbait Dive Club has chartered a Sailboat for a private viewing of the boat parade by our members and family in a comfortable surrounding with friends.

There is only space for 18 people on the boat, so it will be on a first to respond basis that we allot space. E-mail Alf at [alfjohnson1@gmail.com](mailto:alfjohnson1@gmail.com) to get your name and number of people on the list.



## **Chuck Wade Underwater Photography**

Our Sharkbait member and buddy, Chuck is restarting his underwater photography business. You may remember Chuck's awesome photographs when he shared some of his work with us last year. Before he put his underwater camera away a decade or more ago, Chuck was actively shooting underwater photos of our local critters and exhibited and sold his work at the Laguna Art Festival for several years.

Well now he has dusted off his skills, upgraded his equipment and is actively shooting again. Specifically, he is offering his photography skills in photographing you underwater.

Chuck is looking to commemorate in pictures new divers as they get certified during their first ocean dives. Additionally, recording experienced divers as they achieve advanced certifications from advanced all the way up to Instructor.

This is a great way to memorialize these events, and chronicle your diving progress and adventure.

**[Chuck.wade@yahoo.com](mailto:Chuck.wade@yahoo.com)**

## **T-Shirts Re imagined**

We have had several requests for a club t-shirt with a large Sharkbait logo on the back. This would be the same logo design, but with the logo covering the back of the t-shirt. There would be a smaller logo on the front left side and a dive flag on the left sleeve (like the current shirt)  
We have priced what a t-shirt like this would cost and are as follows.

\$24/ea for S-XL, +\$2 for XXL, +\$3 for 3XL

Please let any of the Board members know if you want to purchase some of these T-shirts.

We will need to buy 20 or more to get this pricing.



## Post 2024 Singapore and NAD Lembeh, Indonesia: Trip Recap

By Monica

This was a combination of SCUBA diving and cultural discovery adventure! Five club members began the journey at LAX for a 17-hour and 50-minute direct plane ride to Singapore! One member continued from Singapore to Manado Airport, Indonesia (about 4 hours), followed by an hour-long transport to a dock and then a short ½ hour boat ride to arrive at a NAD Lembeh Resort. The remaining four explored Singapore for a few days to acclimate to the time zone difference of 15 hours ahead of California time. All of us arrived at our respective destinations with all our luggage. The adventures began.

Singapore has strict laws. There were a few researched items to consider. Such as, you cannot chew gum or even bring it into the country, drugs are forbidden, no jaywalking, no throwing trash, cutting people off in line, or being rude to elders. A few words to sum up Singapore would be clean, vibrant, steamy, and pricey. The food was great, the people were friendly, and the atmosphere was very much so alive with excitement since the 2024 Singapore Grand Prix was in town at the same time. Public transportation was a short walk from the hotel, and we purchased two-day passes and used the subway system well. The walking adventures were awesome. The humidity was very high, so a hat or umbrella was necessary. Nighttime was cooler, and the city really came to life since walking around was easier in a milder temperature with no sun.

We joined our other dive member at NAD Lembeh resort and the SCUBA diving portion of the trip ensued. The accommodations were excellent, and each room had great working A/C units. There were nice areas to lounge in; the food was served buffet style, and the staff accommodated dietary restrictions well with pre-made dishes for those who required them. I don't think anyone was hungry after each meal as plenty of food was available. A plastic crate was placed outside our rooms to place all our gear in (BCDs, fins, regulators, and anything else you wanted on the boat). Once on the boat each person had their crate under the seating area to place things and remained there for the duration of the trip. No lugging things back and forth. Of course, you can take a few things to rinse and camera gear off and on, which most of us did.

Sharkbait had its own boat the whole trip, with one other diver joining our group, who was an excellent photographer and had many stories to share! The guide-to-diver ratio spoiled us for future trips, whether one-on-one or one-to-two. It was very much SCUBA divers' spoiled dream operation for sure. The diving was easy with a back roll into the water and, when ending the dive, the option to remove the BCD and climb up the ladder. Water, snacks, and clean towels were provided on the boat in between dives for nice hour-long-plus diving intervals. Two dives in the morning, one in the afternoon, and night and blackwater diving were available if desired. The muck diving was superb. Our trip included a voyage out to Bangka, where it was a little bit longer of a boat ride of about 1 ½ hours, and the dive site left the entire group in awe of an active and healthy coral reef. We saw many colorful sponges, anemones, critters, and even a turtle! The vibrant colors – amazing! When we were done diving, the gear was rinsed, hung for us, and returned dry to our rooms in a crate. This was the driest gear on a return trip home. Stay tuned for future dive club meetings, where you can see pictures and videos that tell a better story than words can.

On the way home, a direct flight from Singapore to LAX is 15 hours and 55 minutes long. Something about the tailwind makes it faster to get home. The flights were long, but the adventures will last forever.

Something funny always happens on club trips- and to end this write-up on a humorous note, the following is hilarious because it worked out well. Our boat ride from the island to the dock area was going well, and there was even a video of the boat ride, but then the engine died- remember, after the boat ride, is about an hour-long van ride to get to the airport for flight number one of two. Then, the on-the-spot repair was done, and we continued. This 10–15-minute delay seemed to last forever! The funny memory will last in our minds with laughter.

...until the next adventure.

# SHARKBAIT DIVE CLUB OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA: DOMINICA WARM WATER TRIP 2025

April 05-12, 2025

Fort Young Hotel and Dive Resort, Dominica

Dominica is an island country of the Lesser Antilles in the eastern Caribbean Sea. It lies between the French islands of Guadeloupe and Marie-Galante to the north and Martinique to the south. The island has long been a treasured dive destination. Fort Young, with its prime location in the country's capital city of Roseau along the shores of the Caribbean Sea, has played host to dive travellers from around the world for over a decade.

Where city, reef, and rainforest converge, Fort Young Hotel & Dive Resort is a full-service heritage hotel on the Caribbean Sea. Boasting a coveted oceanfront location in the heart of Dominica's vibrant capital, Roseau, and distinguished as the island's only All-Inclusive offering, Fort Young provides unparalleled access to the heart of the island while modern, boutique-style accommodations and peerless amenities complete an idyllic Caribbean holiday. From seaside al fresco dining, entertainment, and duty-free shopping on the resort's waterfront to the neighboring French Quarter's Saturday markets and unfathomable adventures at your doorstep — waterfall hikes, hot spring soaks, rainforest walks, and world-class scuba diving right off the dock — Fort Young Hotel & Dive Resort is your gateway to experiencing Dominica by both land and sea.

<https://www.fortyounghotel.com/>

Space is limited to a total of 5 rooms remaining (4 Fort Ocean and 1 Deluxe Oceanfront) SCUBA DIVING PACKAGE COST (Non-diver subtract \$450 per person):

PRICES BELOW REFLECT BREAKFAST ONLY ALTERNATE MEAL PLAN OPTIONS AVAILABLE

- Deluxe Oceanfront \$1,595 per person/ based on double occupancy.
  - Single occupancy \$2,520
- Fort Ocean \$1,470 per person/ based on double occupancy.
  - Single occupancy \$2,255

A \$100 per person deposit is extended until November 1st, 2024, to hold your spot! The final payment for the remaining balance is due by February 01, 2025.

Pay by check, payable to Sharkbait Dive Club

Mail to: Alf Johnson, 17721 Seminole Way, Yorba Linda, CA 92886



# SHARKBAIT DIVE CLUB OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA: DOMINICA WARM WATER TRIP 2025

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Fort Young Hotel and Dive Resort, Dominica

Travel Package DOES NOT include Airfare, Alcoholic Drinks, Dive or Travel Insurance, Gratuities or Dive Gear.

Please note for travel: Passports must be valid 6 months past travel dates.

Includes:

Dive Package

7 Nights' Accommodations Roundtrip Airport Transfers Daily Breakfast

2 Tank Boat Dives per Day (5 days)

Unlimited Shore Diving (per safety conditions)

\$50 Spa Credit per person

Waterfall Combo Tour (Trafalgar Falls & Gorge) Free WiFi

OPTIONAL MEAL PLANS WITH ADDITIONAL COSTS PER PERSON

Lunch & Dinner (NO DRINKS)

\$525 per person

Lunch & Dinner & Beverages \$875 per person

Non-Alcoholic Beverages - Sodas, Juices, Fruit Punch, Virgin Pina Colada, Filtered Water, Regular

House Coffee and Tea (Bottled water is not included) Alcoholic Beverages - Beers, House Wines by

the glass, Pina Colada and House Spirits \*\*

\*\*Alcoholic Beverages + others

Soca Rum (Dark/White), BB Rum, Red Cap Rum, Smirnoff Vodka, Gordon's Gin

Major Brandy, JW Red Label Whiskey, Heineken Beer, Kubuli Beer, Carib Beer, Kubuli Shandy, Kairi

Malt, Coke, Sprite, Soda Water, Gingerale, Tonic Water

## Still available Club T-shirts & stickers!!

After what seems like forever, we finally have T-shirts with the Sharkbait logo front and back.

In addition, we have window stickers which you can adhere to the outside of windows, bumpers, doors or just about anything. They are vinyl and the manufacturer says they should stand up to the sun for quite a while.

E-mail Alf Johnson to order  
alfjohnson1@gmail.com

Sizes M,L,XL,XXL 95% Cotton  
\$25 Shipped



Vinyl Sticker 4" X 4"  
\$2 each or 3 for \$5



## We Like



**World of Diving**  
Dive Travel



## Chuck Wade

Personalized Underwater Photography  
Chuck.wade@yahoo.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

## **Club Contact/Social Media Information**

Website  
Sharkbaitdiveclub.org  
Facebook  
SharkBait Dive Club - SoCal  
Twitter  
@sharkbait diver  
Scubaboard  
Scubaboard.com

## Club Board Members

### **President**

Monica Villegas  
rescue1grl@gmail.com

### **Vice President**

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

### **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

### **Summer/Winter Club Parties**

Vlad Ilinsky  
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### **Special Projects**

Christine Riley  
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Silvia Marketing/Publicity, Speakers  
Vlad Webmaster  
Alf Newsletter, Membership  
Martin Beach Dives  
Monica Warm Water Trips  
Christine Special Projects  
Barry Special Projects