



SharkBait Monthly Meeting

WE meet at 6:30 on the second Tuesday of each month, except December, at Denny's Diner in Yorba Linda 17568 Yorba Linda Blvd. That is the corner of Richfield and YL Blvd. Enter off Richfield. We are also on ZOOM for those of you off our beaten track to join in.



See you there, in person or on the screen

April Speaker Underwater Photographer Brook Peterson

We are thrilled to announce that acclaimed underwater photographer and conservationist Brook Peterson will be the guest speaker at our next dive club meeting. Brook is a passionate storyteller whose work aims to document the hidden wonders of the sea in the most artistic way possible. A proud member of the Ocean Artists Society, she uses her imagery to inspire a global awareness of the need to preserve our natural world, frequently contributing to organizations like MarineSanctuary.org and The Ocean Agency's Ocean Image Bank.



Whether you are a seasoned diver or a budding shutterbug, Brook brings a wealth of expertise to the table. Her work has been featured in prestigious publications such as Scuba Diver Magazine, Oceanographic Magazine, and Sylvia Earle's Ocean: A Global Odyssey. Beyond her stunning portfolio, she is a dedicated educator, sharing her technical mastery through her "Waterdog Photography" blog and tutorials syndicated by the UW Photography Guide.

During her presentation, Brook will share her observations of the beautiful and often strange aquatic world, offering a glimpse into the techniques she uses to capture everything



April 11-18 Warm Water Trip
Little Cayman Cayman Islands

April 12 Beach Dive
Little Corona Newport Beach 7:00 AM

April 14 Club Meeting
Denny's Diner Yorba Linda 6:30

May 6 2026 Chamber Day/Eve

May 12 Club Meeting
Denny's Diner Yorba Linda 6:30

May 17 Beach Dive
Crescent Bay Laguna Beach 7:00 AM

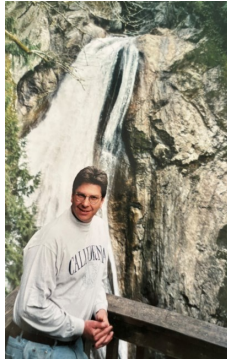
May 30-31 SCUBA Show
Long Beach Conv. Ctr

from tiny macro subjects to expansive wide-angle scenes. Don't miss this opportunity to gain technical insights and be inspired by Brook's profound respect and awe for the ocean. Please join us for an evening of spectacular imagery and expert advice!



Remembering Randy Garcez: A Life of Adventure, Bravery, and Laughter

The Sharkbait Dive Club family is reflecting on the loss of a truly remarkable friend and leader, Randy Barrados Garcez, who passed away at the age of 70 following a courageous 12-year battle with Glioblastoma multiforme. Randy was a pillar of our community, serving as Club President for several years and leaving an indelible mark on everyone who had the privilege of diving alongside him.



A Legacy of Intellect and Service

Born and raised in Oakland, Randy was a man of deep intellect and service. An Eagle Scout in his youth, he carried that spirit of preparedness into his professional life, earning a Bachelor of Science in Zoology from UC Davis and a Master's degree in Transfusion Medicine from Duke University. For 38 years, he shared his life's journey with his wife, Silvia Swigert, whom he met in the most Randy-esque way possible: competing on a co-rec softball field.

Turning Losses into Legends

While Randy was an accomplished skier, golfer, and a "500" Club bowler, his heart belonged to the water. As an Advanced Scuba Diver, he was known for his technical precision, but even more so for his ability to transform a mishap into an epic club memory.

Nothing captured this spirit better than the legendary Barracuda Incident in Dominica. While shadowed by a behemoth-sized giant barracuda, Randy and his dive buddy, Monica, became convinced the fish was eyeing their jewelry. To outsmart the predator, Randy tucked his wedding band into the pocket of his board shorts. They high-fived at the safety stop, proud of their cleverness, only to realize upon surfacing that the ocean had claimed the ring.

In typical Randy fashion, he didn't let the loss dampen the trip. Instead, he turned it into a celebration that we still talk about today. With the help of hotel staff, a "jump-the-broom" island wedding was organized on the spot. Clasp

ing a basket-woven replacement ring and a bouquet made of cocktail umbrellas, Randy and Silvia renewed their vows in a moment of pure joy and humor.

He had a rare gift for ensuring that even when things went wrong, the story always ended with a laugh.



Fair Winds and Following Seas

Randy was more than just an adventurer; he was a loyal friend, a profound listener, and a leader who led with both expertise and a penchant for shenanigans. He is survived by his beloved Silvia and a large extended family of nieces and nephews.

We will miss his humor, his bravery, and his steady presence on the boat. As we look back, may your own reflections of Randy bring a smile to you, just as he intended with every story he created.

You outsmarted the barracuda in the end, Randy, by leaving us with a treasure trove of memories that will never be lost! Fair winds and following seas.



Beach Dive April 12 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 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.

Beach Dive May 17 Crescent Bay Laguna Beach 7:00 AM

The options at Crescent Bay are numerous. To the South are reefs with large crevices, one of which leads over to neighboring Shaw's Cove. There are times when the surge in this passage is very strong so enter with care. On the North side is another reef which is a fun place to traverse. Beyond the reefs here lie Seal Rocks, a pair of rocky spires on which Sea Lions "haul out" to rest and sun themselves. Here you may have the opportunity to cavort with these playful and graceful mammals. They love to dive, zoom right at your face and pull up just at the last second, mouth open, blowing bubbles.

The fish life at Crescent includes Opaleye, Garibaldi (of course), Surfperch, and other usual suspects. Depths here range from 10 to 25 feet with vis in the 15 to 20 foot range.

Access is off of Circle Way near Cliff Drive. You Have Two Options:

There is a stairway off Circle Way leading down to the Cove. Circle Way is a One Way Street - Access is about 2/3 the way around the Circle. There is also an access way at the intersection of Circle Way & Cliff Drive

Boat Dives

From Chuck Wade

Hi. I'm booked on the Sundiver Express for a 3 tank dive at Catalina on Saturday April 18 if anyone wants to join me. \$200 includes 3 dives with tanks breakfast and lunch included. Boarding in Long Beach at 7:00 AM. Booking is available on their website. Book early.



Chamber Day May 6

We're less than six weeks away from Chamber Day 2026, the USC Catalina Hyperbaric Chamber's annual fundraiser, taking place on Wednesday, May 6, 2026!

Join us for our exciting in-person events at Chamber Day and Chamber Eve. Prefer to participate from home? No problem — there will be virtual options available for those who cannot attend in person.

Your support truly makes a difference. Together we can ensure the Chamber continues to provide life-saving treatment for injured divers.

Sharkbait will be making a club donation of \$100 to the Chamber Day. You can add to that donation to help make a difference, and we will include that in our club contribution. Just send or give your donation to Alf at the meeting or mail to Alf Johnson at 17721 Seminole Way, Yorba Linda, CA. 92886'

Supporting Diver Safety for Over 50 Years
For more than half a century, the USC Catalina Hyperbaric Chamber has served as a vital lifeline, providing 24/7/365 treatment for diving accidents. Knowing the Chamber is available gives divers exploring Southern California waters the reassurance of a critical safety net. This essential service is made possible through a unique partnership between Los Angeles County and the Southern California diving community. In fact, Chamber Day contributions account for more than 60% of the Chamber's annual operating budget.

Support from divers, clubs, dive shops, manufacturers, publications, organizations, and dive boat operators helps fund:

Transportation, Housing, and Meals for Chamber volunteers

Treatment Gases used in life-saving care

Equipment Maintenance and Repairs

Critical Upgrades and new Equipment

Purchase

Every dollar helps ensure the Chamber is ready when it's needed most.

SCUBA Diving Trivia

Scuba diving is a sport that blends physical exploration with fascinating science and history. Here are some facts about the world beneath the waves:

Scientific & Biological Marvels

Sound Travels Faster: Sound travels approximately four times faster in water than in air (1,482 m/s vs. 343 m/s). This makes it nearly impossible for divers to determine the direction a sound is coming from

You Shrink (Temporarily): The immense pressure of the water compresses the air spaces in your body and even slightly compresses your spinal discs.

Underwater Forests: The ocean produces between 50% and 80% of the world's oxygen, primarily through marine plants like phytoplankton and kelp forests.

Equipment & History

The Name is an Acronym: The term was coined by Christian J. Lambertsen in 1952.

The "Silent" World Isn't Silent: Fish grunt, shrimp snap, and whales sing, creating a constant underwater symphony.

The Oldest Diving Helmet: The "Enlightenment" era saw the creation of the diving bell, but the first "smoke helmet" (modified for diving) was patented by Charles and John Deane in 1823.

Incredible Records & Stats

The Deepest Dive: The current world record for the deepest scuba dive is held by Ahmed Gabr, who descended to 332.35 meters (1,090 feet) in the Red Sea in 2014.

Underwater Museums: There are more artifacts and "museum pieces" at the bottom of the ocean than in all the world's museums combined, largely due to centuries of shipwrecks.

Weightlessness: Scuba diving is one of the few ways humans can experience "neutral buoyancy," which closely mimics the feeling of being in outer space. This is why NASA uses large indoor pools (Neutral Buoyancy Laboratory) to train astronauts.

How Dive Computers Track Decompression Status

Modern scuba diving relies heavily on dive computers, with approximately 95% of recreational dives now tracked by these devices. These "little boxes" have replaced traditional square-profile dive tables, allowing divers to maximize their time underwater by calculating decompression status in real-time.

How Dive Computers Work

A dive computer's primary job is to track a diver's depth and time to estimate the amount of inert gas (usually nitrogen) dissolving into and leaving the body's tissues. This process is governed by a mathematical model known as a decompression algorithm.

These algorithms use a concept called tissue compartments. Since different parts of the body—like blood (fast) and bone and fat (slow)—absorb and release gas at different rates, algorithms use a series of "half-time" calculations to approximate this complex physiological process. Because fat is a "slow tissue," it acts as a reservoir that takes a long time to reach equilibrium and an equally long time to "off-gas" or release that nitrogen during and after an ascent. This slow release is a primary reason why divers must manage their ascent rates and surface intervals carefully to avoid decompression sickness.

Major Decompression Algorithms

Most dive computers utilize one of two primary types of mathematical models:

- **Bühlmann ZHL-16:** Developed by Dr. Albert Bühlmann, this is a "dissolved-phase" model. It tracks the pressure of gas dissolved in 16 theoretical tissue compartments. It is widely praised for being open-source and highly adjustable through Gradient Factors, which allow divers to customize their level of conservatism.

- **Reduced Gradient Bubble Model (RGBM):** Developed by Dr. Bruce Wienke, this is a "bubble model." Unlike Bühlmann, which assumes bubble formation should be avoided entirely, RGBM assumes that micro-bubbles are always present and attempts to limit their

growth by penalizing risky behaviors like rapid ascents or short surface intervals.

- **DSAT (Pelagic DSAT):** Often used in Oceanic and Shearwater computers, this model is based on human Doppler studies and is generally considered more liberal for recreational diving, allowing for more bottom time on a single dive.

What Your Computer Doesn't Know

While dive computers are powerful tools, DAN emphasizes that they are limited by their programming. An algorithm is a mathematical prediction, not a biological guarantee. There are several "invisible" factors that a computer cannot currently measure:

1. **Individual Physiology:** Factors like age, body fat percentage, and underlying health conditions (such as a PFO) significantly influence DCS susceptibility.

2. **Thermal Stress:** Being warm during the "gas-uptake" phase (bottom time) and cold during "off-gassing" (ascent) can increase the risk of DCS, yet most computers do not factor water temperature into their decompression math.

3. **Physical Exertion:** Heavy exercise at depth increases blood flow and gas absorption, potentially tripling decompression requirements—a variable most computers cannot track.

Warm Water Trip for November 2026

At our March Board meeting, we discussed options for our November dive trip and found that at this late date, most resorts are booked. We are working on Plan B

We will discuss this more at the meeting in April and get some member input to guide our decision-making.
Stay Tuned.

Fathom Fantasies 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.

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

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

<https://worldofdiving.com/>

Ryan Dandy



<https://getinspiredinc.org/>



Scuba World
Orange, Ca.

1706 N Tustin St,
Orange, CA 92865
(714) 998-6382

Fanthom Fantasies Chuck Wade

Personalized Underwater Photography

Chuck.wade@yahoo.com

Club Board Members



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 .

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New Membership:
Single \$40 pp
Family \$50 (couple/family)
Renewal:
Single \$30
Family \$40

You will get a reminder when your renewals are due

Club Contact/Social Media Information

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

President

Monica Villegas
1monica.villegasl@gmail.com

Vice President

Rick Lindwall
chirotor@gmail.com

Secretary/Treasurer

Alf Johnson
alfjohnson1@gmail.com

Martin Carreon
n1diver@aol.com

Dave Stewart
dastewart773@gmail.com

Barry Bloch
divingwetdog@yahoo.com

Vlad Ilinsky
vilinsky88@gmail.com

Christine Riley
christine.riley@gmail.com

Silvia Swigert
silviaswigerts@gmail.com

Board Member Assignments

| | |
|------------|-----------------------------------|
| Alf | Newsletter |
| Barry/Vlad | Special Events |
| Christine | Boat Dive Liasion |
| Dave | Warm Water Trips |
| Martin | Beach Dive |
| Rick | Speakers, ZOOM |
| Silvia | Public Relations, |
| | Publicity, Social Media, Website, |
| | Membership |