



SharkBait Monthly Meeting

WE meet at 6:30 PM 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

May Guest Speaker Kurt Lieber, President of Ocean Defenders

Ocean Defenders Alliance works to clean and protect marine ecosystems through documentation, education, and meaningful action. Working with affected communities, we focus primarily on the reduction and removal of man-made debris, which poses serious threats to ocean wildlife and habitats.

ODA has a large network of divers and other community supporters who contact us and report locations of abandoned fishing gear and sunken vessels. We are also well informed about sites that are routinely visited by commercial fishermen, and too often plagued by derelict gear.

After compiling the locations, we strategically plan our dive routes and schedules and reach out to our volunteer divers to plan the excursions.

Ghost nets are the ocean's immortal, unintended assassins. When fishing gear is abandoned or lost, it doesn't stop "fishing"; it drifts through the abyss, indiscriminately snaring everything from delicate sea fans to majestic humpback whales. This cycle of ghost fishing creates a tragic loop where trapped animals die and attract new scavengers, who then become entangled themselves.

Beyond the biological toll, these heavy plastic shrouds are

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

June 9 Club Meeting
Denny's Diner Yorba Linda 6:30

June 14 Beach Dive
Fishermans Cove Laguna Beach 7:00 AM

a death sentence for reefs, smothering coral colonies and snapping ancient structures. For us divers, they represent a chilling underwater hazard—a literal "dead end" where a single snag can turn a routine exploration into a life-threatening entanglement.

SCUBA Show Long Beach Convention Center

The 2026 Scuba Show in Long Beach is the largest consumer diving event in the country, offering a massive hub for both seasoned divers and those looking to get certified.

Here are the primary reasons to attend:

1. The Latest Gear and Tech

With over 91,000 square feet of exhibit space, you can get hands-on with the newest equipment. The New Product Showcase allows you to see, touch, and test the latest dive tech, from high-end regulators and BCDs to underwater photography rigs and computers. It's an ideal place to compare brands side by side before making a purchase.

2. Expert-Led Seminars

The show hosts dozens of seminars and clinics led by industry professionals. These sessions cover a wide range of specialized topics, including:

Technical Diving: Advanced gas blending and equipment configurations.

Underwater Photography: Tips for lighting and editing from pro videographers.

Local & Global Travel: Insider guides to California's kelp forests or remote international destinations.

Diver Safety: Specialized workshops on buoyancy control and emergency protocols.

3. Exclusive Travel Deals

Many exhibitors are dive resorts and liveaboards from around the world. Attending the show often grants you access to "Show Specials"—significant discounts on dive travel packages that aren't available online or through traditional booking channels.

4. Community and Networking

It is the ultimate gathering for the diving community. It's a great opportunity to:

Meet representatives from local dive clubs.

Connect with dive masters and instructors.

Find new dive buddies and share experiences with people who have similar interests in marine conservation and exploration.

Show Details

Dates: May 30 – 31, 2026

Location: Long Beach Convention Center

Tickets: You can purchase tickets online to skip the lines at the door.

NOTE: Many of us will be attending on Saturday, May 30. We hope you will join us

CHAMBER DAY 2026 RESULTS

\$201,244

We set a new record for Chamber Day in that we passed \$200,000 for the very first time. All we can say is "WOW!!!" And thank you!!! This was beyond our wildest dreams for this year.

Ken Kurtis (Chairman)

Chamber Day/Eve 2026

and the Chamber Day 2026 Committee



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

As of this printing, I don't have any news on Boat Dives. We will get an update at our meeting. See you there and we'll find out together.



Beach Dive June 14 Fisherman's Cove Laguna Beach 7:00 AM

Fisherman's Cove (AKA Boat Canyon) is a small cove with a tiny beach, well protected from the surf; the sand drops off quickly. Portions of the reef can be shallow, but are generally 15 to 20 on average. Around the base of the reef, in the sand, the water depth is about 25 to 30 feet. Skirt along the edges and look for the many large cracks that lead into the reef.

Mermaids Grotto is a hole in the reef off Fisherman's Cove. The cracks leading to the grotto are only about 3 feet wide, or just wide enough for a diver to pass through. The top of the reef is at about 15 feet, and the bottom of the cracks and holes are at about 25 feet. Not a huge vertical drop, but enough to make it fun.

The site is populated with the usual Laguna Beach residents: Garibaldi, Sand Bass, Opal eye, Zebra Perch, small gobies, rockfish, urchins, Octopus, rays, and nudibranchs. A very enjoyable place to dive, especially at night.

To get to Fisherman's Cove in Laguna Beach, turn south at the traffic light on Beverly Street from PCH. The signal has a sign for Beverly Street, but when you turn south, you are going onto Cliff Drive. The road forks immediately on Cliff Drive. Stay to the left going onto Cliff Drive and go about 200 yards. The staircase to Fisherman's Cove is just before the last apartment building (looking south, towards the beach). The steps to the cove are just past (or before, depending on where you parked) the entrance to Divers Cove, right next to the apartment building.



How Your Regulator Makes Breathing Possible at Depth

Ever wonder why breathing from your regulator feels exactly the same at 10 feet as it does at 100 feet? It feels natural, but physiologically, your body is doing something incredible to manage the immense pressure surrounding you. Understanding this is key to efficient breathing and better gas management.

The Physiology of Breathing: Expanding Against Pressure

On land, we breathe by contracting our diaphragm and intercostal muscles, which expands the chest cavity, lowering pressure inside the lungs and sucking air in.

Underwater, this process faces a massive challenge: ambient pressure. For every 10 meters (33 feet) you descend, pressure increases by 1 atmosphere (ATA). At 30 meters (99 feet), your body is under 4 times the pressure of the surface.

If you were breathing through a long snorkel, the water pressure on your chest would be so high that your muscles would not be strong enough to expand your chest cavity to pull air down. The water pressure would effectively crush your chest, preventing expansion and inhalation.

The Role of the Regulator

This is where your regulator comes in. Its job is to provide air at ambient pressure—exactly the same pressure as the water surrounding you—allowing your lungs to expand normally, regardless of depth.

- **Stage 1 (Tank side):** Reduces the high-pressure air in your tank (approx. 3000 PSI) down to a manageable "intermediate pressure". Importantly, it also "senses" the surrounding water pressure, adjusting the intermediate pressure so it rises as you go deeper.

- **Stage 2 (Mouthpiece):** Receives this intermediate pressure and further reduces it to match the ambient water pressure at your depth.

Because the air is delivered at the same pressure as the water pushing on your chest, your chest muscles can easily expand, allowing you to breathe comfortably. Without this

mechanism, your lungs would feel restricted, and breathing would become almost impossible, similar to the intense exertion felt when snorkeling at depth.

Why Breathing Feels Harder Deeper

While the regulator delivers air at the right pressure, it cannot change the density of the air. According to Boyle's Law, as pressure increases, gas volume decreases.

At 30 meters (4 ATA), the air you breathe is four times denser than at the surface. This dense air is harder to move through your regulator and your airways, increasing the "work of breathing".

The Takeaway for Divers:

1. Trust your gear: Your regulator acts as an artificial chest expansion assistant, balancing internal lung pressure with external water pressure.
2. Slow and deep: Because air is denser and harder to move at depth, slow, deep breaths are crucial to minimize work, prevent carbon dioxide buildup, and keep you calm.
3. Maintain your equipment according to the manufacturer's recommended servicing interval guidelines by an authorized service technician.

SCUBA Equipment Facts You May Not Have Known (unless you are Dave S. or Joel K.)

Mask Magnification: Objects seen through a diving mask appear roughly 33% larger and 25% closer.

No Left/Right Fins: Standard scuba fins are interchangeable and do not have dedicated left or right feet

Tank Buoyancy: Aluminum tanks can change from negatively buoyant (sinking) to positively buoyant (floating) as they are emptied, unlike steel tanks.

Tank Manufacturing: Aluminum scuba cylinders are generally manufactured from a single piece of aluminum without welding.

Wetsuit History: Early wetsuits were 1/4 inch thick and featured a "beavertail" flap that buckled between the legs.

Emergency Air: Old-fashioned "horse-collar" BCDs used small CO_2 canisters for emergency inflation, similar to modern life vests.

Ancient Beginnings: Assyrian divers (900 B.C.) used animal skins filled with air to stay submerged longer.

The Aqua-Lung: Jacques-Yves Cousteau and Emile Gagnan invented the modern regulator in 1943, adapting it from a 19th-century design.

Early Gear: Early regulators were "double-hose" systems that vented bubbles behind the head, making them ideal for photographers.
Rebreathers:

The first rebreather device was invented in 1772 by Sieur Freminet, though it was not safe.

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/>



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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

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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