



EARTH DAY 2004

by Pierre Hurter

"The earth will continue to regenerate its life sources only as long as we and all the peoples of the world do our part to conserve its natural resources. It is a responsibility, which every human being shares. Through voluntary action, each of us can join in building a productive land in harmony with nature." President Gerald Ford Proclaiming March 21st as *Earth Day*

The Japanese Peace Bell at UN Headquarters in New York rang at exactly 1:49 AM (EST) on Saturday, 20 March to mark the moment that spring begins in the Northern Hemisphere and autumn in the Southern Hemisphere. At the moment of the Vernal Equinox, night and day are equal all over the world, the sun sets at the South Pole and rises at the North Pole and if you happen to be standing on the equator at noon, you will not cast a

shadow. Earth Day is meant to be a day of equilibrium when nature's renewal is celebrated by all.

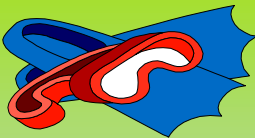
For the last 34 years, this annual event has marked the beginning of Earth Day which has been traditionally observed with the ringing of bells. Earth Day was created to remind us of our shared responsibility to protect the planet.

So what's going on locally? The Coral Reef Alliance (coralreefalliance.org/divein) has a listing of local events related to Earth Day (note that they celebrate this day on April 22nd). For something a little different you could try "Reggae for Reefs", a local band "Jethro Jeremiah" will be playing at the Elbo Room, 647 Valencia on Monday, April 19th. Those of you who have been in San Francisco awhile have probably been there. It opened back in 1935 and when I lived in the Mission it was called Amelia's, one of the Cities first all woman's clubs.



FREEDIVING CAN BE ENTERTAINING

Kenneth Gwin



Over the years, I have had a number of freediving experts give presentations to our club on various topics--blue water hunting, abalone diving, deep record setting diving, and the most general techniques of freediving. I've even written some short articles about my philosophy of "the do nothing school of freediving" for the newsletter.

The ab opener was such good fun and so many people showed up, I got to thinking again about the various skill levels of those out there trying to out smart those sneaky snails.

Freediving (what used to be called skin diving, but anybody out in the chilly California waters knows that's a silly name) is the basis of diving as we know it. Somehow, scuba became the norm and freediving became confused with snorkeling. Freediving involves diving--actually going down, 20, 40, 60' or so.

So, for this month's entertainment, I will again personally present pointers for the freediving novice. I'll bring some helpful video of accomplished freedivers, and go over the basics of techniques that make this a sport of refinements.

Der Stammtisch



I ended March's column with a comment about abalone and how it all comes down to Wiener schnitzel. For those who've never been to Vienna or think that schnitzel comes from a drive through and has something to do with hot dogs, you take a pork cutlet, pound it, bread it and plop it into a frying pan with a little hot oil. When its crispy and brown on both sides your done. So what's all this have to do with abalone? Abalone has been harvested in California since the 1900's. Until 1915 when the state banned abalone export, there was a lively trade in dried and canned abalone between Monterey and Asia. The trade was spearheaded by a partnership between Gennosuke Kodani, a marine biologist with extensive hardhat diving experience and Alexander Alan. In the heyday of abalone harvesting as many as eighteen boats operated out of Point Lobos alone. After the ban on abalone exports it looked as if large scale harvesting was a thing of he past. It's hard to believe, but abalone was not all that popular in the non-Asian market. That's when "Pop" Ernest Doeller came on the scene and started serving the mollusk in his Monterey restaurant, sliced, pounded, breaded and fried, the Monterey schnitzel. The next time you visit Point Lobos take a moment to explore the Whalers Cabin and take a look at the old menu.

This seems a good time to segue into Saturday's abalone opener. As Gerda and I headed down the road towards Fort Ross we passed a Volvo loaded with gear, inner tubes pressed against the back window and a kayak sliding form side to side on the roof rack. A closer look revealed Tree waving from the back seat, Gene at the wheel and Ken asleep against the passenger window. Ken has been gently nudging me to try my hand at hunting and gathering for some time. So Saturday morning found me in the parking lot at Fort Ross, wet suit, weight belt, float, gauge and ab iron jangling from their leashes. We trudged across the meadow and down the hill to the cobble-strewn beach.

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REEFER RAP 2004

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
<p>01 - New Year's Day - Point Lobos 07 - Officer's Meeting 10 - Cypress Sea 21 - Meeting - Sinbad's 24- Monterey Beach Dive</p>	<p>04 - Officer's Meeting 07 - Cypress Sea - (3 Dives) 18 - Meeting - Sinbad's</p>	<p>03 - Officer's Meeting 17 - Meeting - Sinbad's 20 - Cypress Sea - (3 Dives)</p>
APRIL	MAY	JUNE
<p>03 - Abalone Opener – Fort Ross 07 - Officer's Meeting 17 - Cypress Sea - (3 Dives) - Sat - Pierre - 415.285.6293 21 - Meeting - Sinbad's</p>	<p>05 - Officer's Meeting 19 - Meeting - Sinbad's 22 – 23 SCUBA SHOW 2004 22 - Cypress Sea - (3 Dives) - Sat - Pierre - 415.285.6293</p>	<p>02 - Officer's Meeting 12 - Cypress Sea - (3 Dives) - Sun - Pierre - 415.285.6293 16 - Meeting - Sinbad's TBD - Abalone Closer</p>
JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
<p>07 - Officer's Meeting 21 - Meeting - Sinbad's 24 - Cypress Sea - (3 Dives) - Sat. - Pierre - 415.285.6293</p>	<p>TBD - Abalone Opener - Salt Point - 04 - Officer's Meeting 15-17 - Channel Islands - Jim Vallario - 415.566.0784 18 – Kayaking the Caves of Santa Cruz Island 18 - Meeting - Sinbad's</p>	<p>01 - Officer's Meeting 04 - Cypress Sea - (3 Dives) - Sat - Pierre - 415.285.6293 10 - 12 - Lake Tahoe Dive - Norm Knutson 15 - Meeting - Sinbad's TBD - Abalone Opener TBD - Monterey Beach Cleanup - David Clayton</p>
OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
<p>01 -02 – San Diego, Lois Ann – Armin Luggen 415 479-3240 06 - Officer's Meeting 09 - Cypress Sea - (3 Dives) - Sat. - Pierre - 415.285.6293 TBD - Alcatraz swim/paddle - Pierre Hurter - 415.285.6293 20 - Meeting - Sinbad's - Officer Nominations !!!</p>	<p>03 - Officer's Meeting 17 - Meeting - Sinbad's - Officer Elections !!! 20 - Cypress Sea - (3 Dives) - Sun. - Pierre - 415.285.6293 TBD - Abalone Closer</p>	<p>01 - Officer's Meeting 11 - Cypress Sea - (3 Dives) - Sat - Pierre - 415.285.6293 15 - Meeting - Sinbad's - Christmas Party !!!</p>

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It was great; visibility was around six feet, the waters flat as a board and the sun a brilliant beacon in the sky. On the way down the hill Curt provided a running commentary on the technique of searching for the elusive mollusk. Ken provided a complimentary stream-of-consciousness view of the hunt with a vaguely Zen point of view. I felt like Jason setting forth in search of the Golden Fleece. We spent several hours bobbing in the swell, diving, exploring and generally having a great time.

We returned to the picnic area to confront a flurry of activity. Aside from a dozen Reef Divers, there where a total of some fifty folks from the San Jose Flipper Dippers, Marin Skin Divers and other members of CenCal. Tables were groaning from the weight of food and drink in every hue and tone. One table had been set up to shuck, slice, pound and bread abalone. Armin was at one end, an ab iron flashing in the sun like some crazed samurai's sword. Tree was slicing, someone else cracking eggs into a bowl, Debra was pounding and Gerda breading. It looked like a Charlie Chaplin assembly line run amok. A nearby table featured frying pans, cast, enameled, Tefloned and bent, in every size you can imagine. Oil roiled and splattered as freshly breaded abalone passed through on its way to the serving tables. The whole event had a vaguely bacchanalian air to it. What better way to spend the day then sitting in the sun with a plate full of abalone a glass of Chateau Galarneau *Mis En Bouteille Au Ghetto* and a great group of good people.



I was reminded of a quote by Benjamin Franklin, "We hear of the conversion of water into wine at the marriage in Cana as of a miracle. But the conversion is, through the goodness of God, made every day before our eyes. Behold the rain which descends from heaven upon our vineyards and which incorporates itself with the grapes, to be changed into wine, a constant proof that God loves us, and loves to see us happy."

The March Cypress Sea dive was great! I know people are beginning to think I'm making up my reports, but conditions have really been that good lately. Our first dive was at Pescadero Point, with visibility at depth in excess of 40 feet. There were only nine divers on the boat, Steve, Curt, Debra, Jim, Gerda and I on our half of the boat and three others from the shop.



Those of us onboard luxuriated in the available space as we headed off into the fog. We stepped off the boat still in the fog and came back to a sun-dappled vista. Down

below we saw several huge lingcod and swirling schools of fish. Our second dive was at Butterfly House, a bit of light surge, but still good visibility, well upwards of 40 feet. Following our trail of cave line like Hansel and Gretel their breadcrumbs, we poked around the jumbled rocks, peering into the nooks and crannies, fish were everywhere, Gerda even spotted a lobster warily peeking out from a deep, dark, ledge.

Finally, with Xcott at the helm we headed towards Monterey, just ahead of the increasing swell and scudding clouds. The last dive of the day was at Outer MacAbee. I've always liked this area there's lots to see and it's a nice shallow dive to end the day. I did my first dry suit dives here. We had unusually good visibility for this area and again lots of sea life. Gerda decided to sit this dive out so I buddied up with Mike, a young man from Ohio making his first ocean dives. The anchor was right at the sand, reef interface and we moved back and forth across the sand, into the reef and amongst the kelp. I love the cathedral effect of sun filtering through the kelp. Great dive to end another gorgeous day.

One of my colleagues at work recently retired. In the course of coming up with a few words to say I stumbled on a website where you can enter your birth date and see what was going on that day, week, month and year. Without giving away too much, the year of my birth featured Vaya Con Dios by Les Paul and Mary Ford, Rags to Riches by Tony Bennett and of course the immortal The Doggie in the Window by Patti Page as the hit songs of the era.

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The Dow Jones average stood at 281, the average income was \$4706 and the mythical "average price of a house" was \$17,400, a car cost \$1850. Times have changed, even though I didn't spend much more for one of my more recent automobile purchases. I still think one of the all time best pictures and as to Audrey Hepburn as best actress, what more can anyone says?

If you've ever wondered where some of the nautical terminology we use comes from, check out "The Origins of Navy Terminology" a website sponsored by the US Navy. "Chewing the Fat" comes from the cured beef used onboard naval vessels. It often required prolonged chewing to make it palatable, thus "chewing the fat". My favorite though is "a cup of Joe". When Josephus Daniels was appointed Secretary of the Navy by Woodrow Wilson, he inaugurated a number of reforms. He started the practice of making 100 sailors from the fleet eligible for entrance into Annapolis, he introduced women into the Navy and he abolished the officers' wine mess. After that the strongest drink available aboard a Navy ship was a cup of coffee, over the years it became "a cup of Joe." How about "Mayday"? Since 1948, the international distress signal comes to us from the French *m'aidez*, "help me".

That's it for April and from the looks of our vacation plans, it will have to do for May as well. Gerda and I are going to be sampling some Swiss cheese and Wiener Schnitzel at the source. I'll be checking my e-mail so if you want to get onboard the May 22, Cypress Sea, let me know. Until then, what do Robert Conrad, Larry Hagman, a.k.a. J.R., Ted Knight and Leonard Nimoy have

in common? Here's a hint, they all had parts in long running show which took place in Southern California. Until next time, dive deep, long and safely.

**ABALONE SEASON
OPENING DIVE AND
PICNIC SATURDAY AT
FT. ROSS**

Kenneth Gwin



Friday night was clear, still, and nearly a full moon.

Getting up early, it was clear, still, and warming.

The drive up with Gene and Tree was perfection. Passed Pierre and Gerda on 101 and played leapfrog with them along the way. By the time we made it up to the Sonoma Cast, the day looked great--pure California--the greenest hills and the bluest ocean imaginable.

The water was looking flat enough.

The planned event was taking shape in the parking lot. Cars, kayaks, smiling faces--a lot of familiar ones. Many club members were there, and friends we'd made in other clubs, as well as many freediving friends I'd met on my own trips and adventures.

I helped Gene drag some kayaks down to launch in the South Cove. Finally a contingent of reefers went in off the cove just to the north of the parking lot, following the Alpine-sure lead of our dive

sherpa guide, the travel savvy Curtis. I teamed up with Pierre to pursue the brainless, but wily slugs. Viz--6-10.'

Freediving is, again, a finesse sport. Lots of sleek kayaks, Euro-suits, long fins--dropping to the bottom effortlessly. Some, however, seemed to prefer a more physical approach using the fins-up-in-the-air-feet-flailing technique.

Also learned a new way to successfully wrangle the abalone. Several divers bang on the bottom chasing the slippery snails into waiting game bags. I think this was the technique Susan and Tom were using.

A lot of people having fun on a perfect day.

Ft. Ross is heavily dived. Still, I could find a half-dozen abalone on a single dive. Plenty of legal ones. Obviously, finding a really big ab at Ft. Ross would require perseverance, but finding a healthy regenerative batch of smaller (3-5") abs is promising.

In the afternoon, a little patchy fog stood off the coast, and a light breeze came up, but the picnic was held on that sunny meadow down out of the wind, and it was shirtsleeve weather all afternoon.

Got to the picnic area to find that Tree had joined the slice and dice brigade (I just love a good woman with fine cutlery), and food was piling up. Armin was our master chef.

Several clubs participated in the picnic, (a good many from Cen Cal). Lots of people showed up, too much food was available--abs, fish, sausages, mussels (somebody brought lobster), salads, cakes--the

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Ab Opener – from page 5

standard fare to the exotic. And, to top it all off, yet more fine offerings by our fine local garage wine maker, Bill Galarneau, who brought cases of white, rose, and the perfectly festive Y2K Merlot

from Chateau Galarneau, Mis en Bouteille au Ghetto.



DIVE SAN DIEGO IN OCTOBER 2004!



SFRD ARE CHARTERING THE LOIS ANN TO EXPLORE THE YUKON, RUBY E, KELP FOREST AND OTHER INTERESTING PLACES

When: Departing San Diego Friday, Oct. 1st & returning Saturday, Oct. 2nd 2004.

On the first day we'll board the boat around 11:30 with three dives scheduled in the afternoon and one night dive. Day 2 will start leisurely at around 9:00 followed with three more dives.

The price of \$350.00 includes all the diving on the Lois Ann, food while on the boat, gratuity for the crew, 3 nights in a comfortable, nice room in San Diego (shared). Plan to arrive in San Diego on Thursday September 30th.

If you are interested to join us, a deposit in the amount of \$150.00 will get you on the boat - if there is still space left. The trip is filling up fast, so HURRY.

If you need more info or you want to get on the list, please contact Armin Luggen at 415 606 6780. Please confirm availability first, before making payments.



FULL

CHANNEL ISLANDS TRIP DIVE BOAT "PEACE"

When : 8-15, 16, 17-2004 (Sun, Mon, Tue)
Destination : Southern Channel Islands (Including San Clemente)
Departure Info : Departs 10:00PM on 8-14-04 from Ventura, Ca
Cost : \$335 (Includes fuel surcharge for San Clemente)

The Reef Divers have chartered ½ of the boat for 2004. This equates to 14 spots.

IF YOU HAVEN'T SENT IN YOUR DEPOSIT DO IT NOW! TO GET ON THE WAITING LIST CONTACT JIM VALARIO.



Extend the FUN or just meet us there - Wednesday, August 18, 2004

KAYAKING THE CAVES OF SANTA CRUZ ISLAND

After diving the Channel Islands in August on the Peace, we thought it would be fun to kayak the caves of Santa Cruz Island. I did it last year and it was unbelievable and one of my best days of the year. The single rental kayak (Ocean Kayak sit on top) rents for \$24 for the day. A double rents for \$44. The rental folks will meet us 1 hour before the Island Packers boat leaves and will give us a quick lesson, advice on where to go and a map. Like I said, I did this last year and know where the good caves and tunnels are. They will load the kayaks on the big boat and take them off and bring them to the beach. Also, they will pickup the boats later and return them to the mainland where the rental folks will take them. Nothing could be easier. Below is the url if you want to check out their photo gallery.

Sea Kayaking Santa Cruz Island highly advised to call ahead and make reservations. No credit card is needed to hold your spot. Check this website out.

<http://www.islandkayakers.com> Their phone number is (805) 390-8213

Norm Knutson 510-381-1670..mobile



HONDURAS 2004 UPDATE



Openings are still available on the

Roatan portion of the Reef Divers Honduras dive trip.

It looks likely that next week even more members will sign on to dive in Roatan.

A group of eight shares in a group discount, which is nearly achieved. There's still time to join in!

May 15-22 Bay Island Beach Resort, Roatan, 7night pkg. (\$699-

\$749-\$799pp double occ: Std-Deluxe-Premium, +12%tax+ \$10pp tourtax). For a group of 8, \$699pp+Tax, plus additional \$87pp off. 3 boat dives/day, unlimited shore diving. Includes A/C Lodging, 3meals/day, airport transfers, tanks, weights. Check out the resort's thorough online brochure on : <http://www.bibr.com>

Contact Info

SF Reef Diver Honduras Trip Coordinator , Kathy Kennedy, is available by email, and phone after 3pm. Email :kk3@pacbell.net . Phone: 650-755-8030. Liz Sanders, the travel agent handling the "Kennedy Group" is available weekdays for trip payment and additional questions at 1-800-282-8932x307 EST, liz@roatan.com . Hope to see you in Honduras!
Kathy

More discount coupons available at General Meeting

\$1 OFF ADMISSION TO THE DIVING EVENT OF THE YEAR

LARGEST DIVE EXPO IN THE WESTERN U.S.!

SCUBA SHOW

May 22-23, Long Beach Convention Center

EVERYTHING YOU EVER WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT SCUBA DIVING IS IN ONE PLACE AT ONE TIME!

- 76,000 sq. ft. of Exhibits including New Gear, Travel Pros, Dive Experts
- In-Water Demos & Trials
- Seminars
- Door Prizes
- and much more!

- Continuous U/W Film Festival
- Sat. Night Casino Party Benefit

CALIFORNIA DIVING SOCIETY
PADI Diving Society
SPORT DIVER

Regular admission \$9, \$8 with coupon. Children 10 and under free. One coupon per coupon. Photocopies accepted. Coupon does not apply to preregistered General admission includes admission to the Film Festival, Exhibitor Presentations and Exhibit Hall for Saturday or Sunday. Seminars and the Catalina Casino are extra. Pre-registration for seminars is recommended as space is limited. DIRECTIONS TO LONG BEACH CONVENTION CENTER: Take the Long Beach Fwy. (710) south and follow the signs. HOURS: Sat. 10am - 6pm (Casino 6pm - 11pm), Sun. 10am - 5pm. For complete information, including advance seminar registration, see the April or May issues of California Diving News (310) 792-2333, Fax (310) 792-2336, or visit our web site, www.saintbrendan.com

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THIS COUPON COURTESY OF:

San Francisco Reef Divers

Flotsam & Jetsam

Divers in Pearl Harbor uncover secrets of USS Arizona

It's been 62 years since December 7, 1941, when the USS Arizona sank during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. The wreck of the USS Arizona serves as a national monument in remembrance of the more than a thousand men who went down with the ship.

Divers from the National Park Service are visiting the site as well, in underwater expeditions aimed at tracking the rate of decay and helping to preserve the ship. Using an ROV, divers and researchers from the Underwater Resources Center of the National Park Service in Santa Fe, New Mexico, have been able to document conditions in the ship.

Keiko of "Free Willy" fame given a secret burial

Keiko, the killer whale who was the subject of the "Free Willy" movies was buried away from the prying eyes of the public and the media. Keiko, which means "lucky one" in Japanese apparently succumbed to pneumonia.

Canada to deploy a deep-sea "tripwire"

The Canadian military will be spending \$3 million to create a deep-sea "tripwire" to catch smugglers, terrorists or others who try to approach Canada's coastlines illegally.

The surveillance system employs a series of monitors placed on the sea-floor, which can detect engine sounds as well as metal hulls. Canada already has a system of fixed monitors used to detect hostile submarines. The new

system would be rapidly deployable by helicopter or ship to any areas of potential concern.

TV host dies in Palau

The host of the History Channel's "Deep Sea Detectives" died during a 250-foot dive to the USS Perry, a World War II wreck.

Michael Norwood, an experienced diver as well as deep dive instructor, had visited the wreck on two previous dives. During the previous dives, the crew had been unable to do any filming due to the strong currents. On the third dive, the currents had subsided, but on reaching the wreck Norwood signaled that he had run out of air. He lost consciousness on the ascent and apparently drowned.

In all, 12 episodes of "Deep Sea Detectives" have been filmed, some of which have already aired. There is no official cause of death.

NOAA and the Navy search for the first U.S. submarine

The Union's first submarine, the Alligator was to be used against Confederate forces in Charleston. While being towed there it had to be cut loose in a heavy storm and sank off Cape Hatteras, North Carolina.

The Alligator was designed by the French inventor Brutus de Villeroi and built in Philadelphia. It was designed to carry divers who would attach explosives to the sides of enemy ships. The submarine was originally to be propelled by 18 rowers; it was latter fitted with a hand crank-screw propeller. The submarine could attain a top speed of 5 knots with twelve men manning the crank.

Using the original design drawings, found in French naval archives and computer modeling of the storm and predicted course, researchers hope to find its final resting place. The boat could be anywhere from 200 to 6,000 feet deep.

Underwater GPS

Chinese scientists have developed an underwater positioning system, which utilizes GPS (Global Positioning Systems) technology. The underwater global position system (GPS) system can, pilot and position underwater objects in real-time, according to a senior official with the National Remote Sensing Center of China.

The system operates by gathering sound and GPS data from four buoys and a GPS detector which is transferred to the system, which computes the object's exact position.

Preliminary tests indicate that in depths less than 150 feet, horizontal position accuracy is within 5 cm and depth precision 30cm.

Divers recover part of the Graf Spee

Divers recovered a piece of the Nazi battleship Admiral Graf Spee from its watery grave off the coast of Uruguay, more than 60 years after it was scuttled by its captain to keep it from falling into enemy hands.

Late in 1939 the ship was badly damaged in the battle of the River Plate, one of the first naval clashes of World War II. The ship managed to make port in neutral Montevideo, Uruguay. After three days, Uruguay gave in

to diplomatic pressure from Britain and ordered the Graf Spee out to sea, where the captain scuttled it with explosives to prevent it from falling into enemy hands.

A group of private investors from Argentina and Germany plan to re-float the pride of the Nazi fleet and rebuild it on land as a museum. The divers hope to recover the remains of the pocket battleship, which lie in 30 to 40 feet of water over the next three years.

The SS Tahoe listed as historic site

The century-old SS Tahoe has joined the ranks of the USS Arizona at Pearl Harbor and the USS Monitor in North Carolina. They are all underwater national historic sites. The

Launched in 1896, the SS Tahoe steamed around Lake Tahoe for years, carrying freight, mail and sightseers. The 169-foot "Queen of the Lake" carried up to 100 passengers. After losing its mail contract in 1934 it was left moldering at the docks until 1940 when it was scuttled off the Glenbrook Shoreline.

The sternwheeler lying at 400 feet gained attention when it was reached by a Reno-based team of scuba divers. Martin McClellan and Brian Morris successfully reached the vessel's bow in July of 2002 and dove to the wreck four more times that summer, placing a commemorative plaque on the vessel's bow. More dives to the wreck are planned this summer.

USS Oriskany to be sunk off Pensacola coast

The aircraft carrier USS

Oriskany, a retired veteran of the Korean and Vietnam wars, will be sunk in the Gulf of Mexico off Pensacola's coast this summer to serve as an artificial reef, the Navy announced Monday.

The 888-foot Oriskany is the first vessel in a new program designed to dispose of obsolete warships by sinking them as a cheaper alternative to the scrap yard. It will be the largest vessel sunk for that purpose to date.

The Oriskany will be sunk with a series of controlled charges in 212 feet of water 22 miles southeast of Pensacola. The Oriskany is in Corpus Christi, Texas, where it is being cleaned of potential pollutants.

Congress created the Navy's artificial reef program last year as part of the annual National Defense Authorization Act. Until then, only the U.S. Maritime Administration, which is assisting the Navy with its program, had the authority to transfer obsolete vessels for artificial reefs.

British Supermarket chain Tesco facing whale meat boycott

The British supermarket chain Tesco is facing a consumer backlash over its refusal to stop selling whale meat in its stores in Japan.

Greenpeace and the Environment Investigation Agency (EIA) have launched a campaign to make British customers aware of Tesco's practice. They are trying to persuade the firm to ban whale meat from its shops, threatening a local boycott.

Tesco has responded by stating that it would be wrong to impose Western values on Japanese customers and that it had no plans to stop the sales.

Japan kills up to 3,000 minke whales a year for 'research' purposes. The whale meat sold by the Tesco-owned stores comes from companies that own shares in the fleets used in the whaling research.

Divers go deep for Blackbeard photographs

Divers with the Queen Anne's Revenge Shipwreck Project are attempting to document the wreckage of the sunken flagship of the pirate Blackbeard.

Archaeologists hope to create a photo mosaic of the wreck site which combined , with drawings and future photography will allow them to see what geological changes are occurring over the years from storms and currents.

Blackbeard's flagship Queen Anne's Revenge ran aground in Beaufort Inlet in 1718. All that remains from the vessel are hull fragments, cannons and other artifacts covered with sand.

Antoine de Saint Exupery's Plane identified

Antoine de Saint-Exupery, the pilot and author of the beloved tale "The Little Prince," took off on a World War II spy mission for the Allies and was never seen again.

60 years later, the wreckage of a Lockheed Lightning P-38, found in the Mediterranean not far

In 1998, a bracelet bearing Saint-Exupery's name turned up in a fisherman's net near Marseille. The discovery jogged a local divers memory of having seen wreckage in the 1980's. The remains lie in waters 100 to 300 feet deep.

The cause of the crash remains unknown.

Next issue of SFRD Newsletter: June 2004



The San Francisco Reef Divers is a not for profit community organization dedicated to safe sport diving and the preservation of our ocean resources. The San Francisco Reef Divers general meetings are open to the public and are held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at Sinbad's, located at Pier 2, Embarcadero Street, SF, CA 94111 (For driving directions and a map for this location, visit our club web site: [http://www.sfreefdivers.org/.](http://www.sfreefdivers.org/))

We highly encourage you to also support the other organizations listed below when you pay your annual dues. (Please indicate your membership options with the checkboxes below.)

- | | |
|--|------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> San Francisco Reef Divers (SFRD) | \$25 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Abalone Marine Resource Council (AMRC) | 10 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Central California Council of Diving Clubs (CenCal) | 15 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sonoma County Abalone Network (SCAN) | 10 |

Show your support for all four! \$60

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Please select the method of delivery of your monthly club newsletter (Choose one):					
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<input type="checkbox"/>	I want the newsletter mailed to my home address				

Please make checks payable to "San Francisco Reef Divers" and mail to: Pierre Hurter, SFRD Treasurer, 515 Diamond Street, San Francisco, CA 94114



ABOUT SAN FRANCISCO REEF DIVERS (SFRD):

The *Reef Diver Times* is the official newsletter of the San Francisco Reef Divers, a not for profit community organization dedicated to safe sport diving and the preservation of our ocean resources. Membership is \$25 annually, dues payable to "SFRD". The General Meeting is held 3rd Wednesday of the month at at Sinbad's, located at Pier 2, Embarcadero Street, SF, CA 94111. Meet at 7:00pm for socializing, drinks and food and 7:30 pm for club business and entertainment. For more information, visit <http://www.sfreefdivers.org/>.

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