



**A 'THANK YOU'
TO ALL WHO RENEWED THEIR
MEMBERSHIP FOR 2004!**

ALL OTHERS: IT'S TIME !!!

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) | <u>10</u> |
- Show your support for all four!* \$60

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: (____) _____ Work Phone: (____) _____

Email: _____

Please select the method of delivery of your monthly club newsletter (*Choose one*):

I will download the newsletter via the Internet from the SFRD website (preferred)

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



DER STAMMTISCH

Saturday morning had started out like so many others recently, it started out badly. The morning sky was a dark dirty gray. You could smell the rain in the air, almost feel it straining against the scudding clouds, looking to burst through to the ground at the first sign of weakness. Still, I needed a cup of Joe, hot, black, strong. I needed it badly and soon. I flinched as my hand brushed past the empty bottle of Jack Daniels searching for a coffin nail in the crumpled pack of Lucky's. They're toasted, says so right on the pack, at that moment, I felt the same. The blood red circle on the pack seemed to mock me what was Raymond Loewy thinking when he came up with his design, a bull's-eye, is what came to mind. I didn't have the stomach to look at myself in the mirror. I straightened out the last Lucky, flicked a match with my thumb, the bright flame making me wince, and slowly made my way out of bed...

OK, maybe I got a little carried away; but it was Noir City at the Castro Theater after all. Who could resist Fred Mac Murray, as the double-entendre quipping insurance salesman, Barbara Stanwyck as the woman trapped in a loveless marriage or Edward G. Robinson as the nickel cigar chomping claims adjuster in "Double Jeopardy"? The lines are great, when was the last time you walked into the office, handed your attaché case to a secretary and casually said, "park this for me, will you sweetheart?" I'm afraid to get that personal with my PDA.

On the walk home from the theater we came on a pile of books, records and the ubiquitous abandoned home exercise gear, this time two forlorn looking stationary bicycles, all of which was topped by a large cardboard sign proclaiming "Free Junk". Who could resist, OK, I left the bikes behind, but I'm now the happy owner of "Trader Vic's Bartenders Guide" and a stack of 60's era LP's. For our younger members that's "long playing", yep records, vinyl, discs, 33 and a third revolutions per minute.

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2004 SFRD OFFICERS

President	Gene Kramer	(650) 359-2785 genekramer@pacbell.net
Vice President	Steve Neff	(415) 876-4686 hookeye@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer	Pierre Hurter	(415) 285-6293 saltwaterwolf@comcast.net
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Membership Chairperson	Armin Luggen	(415) 479-3240 armin@luggens.com



**Payments for membership and activities
should be mailed to:
Pierre Hurter
515 Diamond Street
San Francisco, CA 94114**

REEFER RAP 2004

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
01 - New Year's Day - Point Lobos 07 - Officer's Meeting 10 - Cypress Sea 21 - Meeting - Sinbad's 24- Monterey Beach Dive	04 - Officer's Meeting 07 - Cypress Sea - (3 Dives) - Sat - Pierre - 415.285.6293 18 - Meeting - Sinbad's	03 - Officer's Meeting 17 - Meeting - Sinbad's 20 - Cypress Sea - (3 Dives) - Sat - Pierre - 415.285.6293
APRIL	MAY	JUNE
07 - Officer's Meeting TBD - Abalone Opener 17 - Cypress Sea - (3 Dives) - Sat - Pierre - 415.285.6293 21 - Meeting - Sinbad's	05 - Officer's Meeting 19 - Meeting - Sinbad's 22 - Cypress Sea - (3 Dives) - Sat - Pierre - 415.285.6293	02 - Officer's Meeting 12 - Cypress Sea - (3 Dives) - Sun - Pierre - 415.285.6293 16 - Meeting - Sinbad's TBD - Abalone Closer
JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
07 - Officer's Meeting 21 - Meeting - Sinbad's 24 - Cypress Sea - (3 Dives) - Sat. - Pierre - 415.285.6293	TBD - Abalone Opener - Salt Point - 04 - Officer's Meeting 15-17 - Channel Islands - Jim Vallario - 415.566.0784 18 - Meeting - Sinbad's	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
OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
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 !!!	03 - Officer's Meeting 17 - Meeting - Sinbad's - Officer Elections !!! 20 - Cypress Sea - (3 Dives) - Sun. - Pierre - 415.285.6293 TBD - Abalone Closer	01 - Officer's Meeting 11 - Cypress Sea - (3 Dives) - Sat - Pierre - 415.285.6293 15 - Meeting - Sinbad's - Christmas Party !!!



2004 WARM WATER TRIP TO HONDURAS!



RATE CHANGE

PLEASE NOTE : This week, new BIG price reductions were negotiated for our week in Roatan (\$50-\$65/week less!) . Changes, highlighted below, apply to full week participation only.

Kathy Kennedy, Coordinator

@@@@@@@@@@ Bay Islands, Honduras May 2004 @@@@@@@@@@@@

May 15-22 Bay Island Beach Resort, Roatan, 7night pkg. (now \$699-\$749-\$799pp: Std-Deluxe-Premium respectively,+12%tax+ \$10pp tourtax). For 8+, \$699pp+Tax, plus additional \$47-\$87pp off.

Three boat dives/day, unlimited shore diving. Includes A/C Lodging, 3meals/day, airport-hotel transfers, tanks, weights.

May 22-26 Plantation Beach Resort, Cayos Cochinos, Reserve 5 nights (\$495 + 16%tax+ \$80pp rt boat transfer from La Ceiba). 3 boat dives/day, unlimited shore diving. Includes lodging, 3meals/day, tanks, weights.

It's a great group so far. Join in for any part of this you would like. Itinerary variations can be arranged. For more information see Coordinator Kathy Kennedy kk3@pacbell.net, available via email Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Deposit with Liz at Roatan Charters to secure a spot: <liz@roatan.com>, 1-800-282-8932x307(EST). Refer to the "Kennedy Group". Liz will answer questions, price-quote your itinerary, mail videos, rate sheets, and brochures, and arrange airfare if needed including inter-island transfers. Prices above do not include airfare. Participants are responsible for arranging their airfare/flights.

For specific resort information see :

<http://www.roatan.com>

<http://www.bibr.com>

<http://www.picobonito.com>



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 want to go on the trip, please do the following:

Mark the dates on your calendar/planner/PDA.

Contact Jim Vallario (415-566-0784) and tell him you want a spot on the boat.

Send a check for \$100 (made out to San Francisco Reef Divers) to our Treasurer (Pierre Hurter).

On 7-01-04, send the remainder (\$235) to Pierre.

The Peace has Nitrox capability. The fee for unlimited fills on a three-day trip is \$75, payable when you arrive on the boat. The requirements are: (1) A Nitrox certification card (to be shown to the Divemaster); (2) A full tank of Nitrox prior to boarding the boat. (Their system does not require an oxygen-clean tank); (3) The tank must have a Nitrox ID sticker, or some other form of Nitrox ID, visible on the tank.

Some reminders:

Bring all of your dive gear, including weight belt and one tank.

If you've let your DAN insurance lapse, now would be a good time to renew.

Each bunk has a pillow and blanket, so if you require more, i.e. sheets, a sleeping bag, etc. plan accordingly.

Food and non-alcoholic drinks are included. If beer and wine are part of your diet, please bring your own. (Remember the rule: Your first drink is your last dive).

We will attempt, once again, to dive San Clemente Island. It is the southernmost island in the Channel Islands chain. There is a fuel surcharge, hence the increased fee for the trip. Last year the weather did not cooperate, so we could not go that far south. Hoping for better luck this year.

THIS MONTH'S ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS:



ALASKA 2003

by Clinton Bauder



Pictures courtesy of SFRD member Keith Grundy

Stammtisch from page 2

Listening to Mirelle Mathier singing her heart out on "Pourquoi Mon Amour" while sipping a martini and enjoying the multi colored "crackling" Presto log in the fireplace. How about "Million Seller Hits of the 60's"? Don't be shy; I know I can't be the only one who gets goose bumps listening to "101 Strings" reproduced in the "Dyna-Coustic-method." Who could ever forget "Theme from a Summer Place" or "What Kind of Fool Am I?" It's a toss-up as to which of the records in this trove are the best, "Fintan Stanley on Tour" or "Honeymoon in Hawaii" I'll confess that not only do I have an affinity for the accordion, but in an earlier life I played one. When you spend your early childhood, the formative years, in Milwaukee you learn not to wear

shorts to first grade and when you're old enough, how to play the "Beer Barrel Polka" on the accordion. Maybe I should pester Ken a bit, how can you beat the love theme from "The Godfather" played on the accordion? Now that's entertainment.

It's Martin Luther King Day and for me a day off. Gerda had to go to work so I had the day to myself, to loaf, surf channels while lounging on the sofa in my underwear and generally relive the glory days of bachelorhood. I opted to do an early morning run instead. I'm no fanatic, but after the holidays it seemed that my pants had all shrunk a bit. You know how it is; humidity in the air does that. So with my New Year's resolution of keeping my waist size less than my inseam, I set off to explore the neighborhood. I'm beginning to realize that the reason you see so

many joggers, bicyclists, skaters, etc. in the Marina and so few in Noe Valley has nothing to do with the preponderance of youth nearer the water. It's the hills, no matter where I go, there will be a hill to conquer, even if it's downhill on the way out, it only means coming up on the way home. As a reward for these runs, I end up at Martha and Brothers for a latte to tide me over as I make my way back home, uphill all the way.

One of the great things about a day off is the chance to wander a neighborhood. If you live in the City, there is no lack of neighborhoods to explore. I opted to wander down 24th Street to Valencia for my walkabout. We used to live off of Valencia, on the corner of 19th and Linda in an quasi art deco apartment across from the pool house at the park.

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Stammtisch from page 6

The Elbow Room proudly proclaims that it has San Francisco's longest happy hour. Not that long ago this was a place strictly reserved for women, no men were served, as I discovered on my first trip inside many years ago. The Swamp, used to be a Brazilian bar, one that a colleague and I once toyed with buying, but that's a column for another time. The Leather Tongue video store is still in business, but Anna's Danish Cookies is empty and features a "For Lease" sign where the brightly colored sugar cookies used to be. Across the street from Anna's is the Woman's Building which once shared the space with the Dovre Club a left over from the days when this really was a blue collar working stiff sort of town. It was a traditional Irish bar and once a hotbed for the City's politicians as well as the local workingman. In the end the tension between a building dedicated to woman's issues and a bar lead to a nasty eviction. Still there are enough watering holes in the neighborhood that no one has to go dry for long, The 500 Club, Dr. Bombay's, Amnesia, etc. make sure of that. A little something for everyone, The Socialist Action Bookstore, The Last Supper Club, Yoruba, the local *botanica mystico*, name your pleasure. For me what really topped off the day was the 53 Studebaker pickup truck, the perfect end to a lazy days wander.

Finally, some dive related commentary. For our first meeting of the New Year, Ken invited Frank Degnan to give us some background on what is going on with the Marine Sanctuaries Act (MSA) and the State Marine Life Protection Act

(MLPA). It's a complex web of issues, and by no means cut and dried, but for those who have an interest in the continued viability of the waters around us, it's worth the effort. As Ken noted, there is a benefit to meeting face to face with interested parties. We all see the world through our own window and often take for granted that everyone else must have a similar view. An occasional face-to-face interaction reminds us that there can be other hues to the same view.

Gerda missed January's dive aboard the Cypress Sea because of her lingering cold so, last Saturday we made our way to Monterey for a beach dive. We stopped by the Aquarius Dive Shop to see if anyone else would join us. Gene Kramer stopped by on his way to Stillwater Cove in his quest to bring some fish to the dinner table. We waited awhile, when no one else showed up we headed for the Breakwater. We promptly ran into Dionna and her dive buddy Steve getting ready to do some practice dives with doubles, reels and argon bottles. The more gear the merrier. We made a long slow exploration of the Breakwater, poking into all the nooks and crannies we could find. Back on shore we ran into Ken and several other members of the dive tribe. We headed over to the deli by the boat launch and I enjoyed one of the better pastrami sandwiches I've ever had. The day started out dark and brooding and ended up sunny and clear, another great day of diving.

This last Saturday, started out cold and dark as we headed to Monterey to hook up with the Cypress Sea. We got to the dock and joined up with the San Jose Flipper dippers for a great day of diving. There where only

fourteen divers on the boat so the space bordered on luxurious. Sean, Kathryn, Tim, Jan, Gerda and I loaded up and off we sailed. With Xcott at the helm and Tad and Bill as crew we headed south to Honeymoon for our first dive. The water was a little green on the way down the anchor line, but opened up to a good 20 to 25 feet of visibility at the anchor. We made our way over to a wall with a bottom of 110 or so and spent the next half hour leisurely exploring all of the nooks and crannies. The second dive was at Pescadero Pinnacles by now the sun was high and all that was missing were some chaise lounges so that we could loll about the deck between dives. Gerda sat this one out so I buddied up with Tim and off we went. There was a huge school of blue rockfish, almost like an underwater cloud. They seemed oblivious to us as we slowly rose into the middle of the school and hung eye to eye with the finny denizens of the deep. Topside we watched the "Outback Steakhouse" blimp circling the AT&T Invitational at Pebble Beach. Should have brought my clubs. The final dive was at outer MacAbee. This time the green never did open up, so Gerda and I spent the time practicing with the reel. Didn't see much aside from several large crabs, but it was still better than staying at home and pulling weed's

And don't forget, when in doubt, just remember WWMND (what would Mike Nelson do)? If I were you I'd buy a dozen roses, pickup a bottle of bourbon, maybe a pack of Lucky Strikes. That's it for this month; see you in the water real soon.





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/>.

SAN FRANCISCO REEF DIVERS
Reef Divers Times
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