



**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 ( <i>Choose one</i> ):					
<input type="checkbox"/>	I will download the newsletter via the Internet from the SFRD website (preferred)				
<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

**Der Stammtisch**



Wandering through Washington Square the other day I paused to take a closer look at the survey marker across from Moose's Restaurant on Stockton Street. If you've ever been in the park you've probably seen the monument, you may even have wondered what it was. It's a stumpy gray granite obelisk about two feet across each of its four sides and maybe three feet high. It has a slightly pointed top with a two-inch brass rod at the center. If you look closely you can still make out the faint punch mark indicating the center. On one side it proudly proclaims the latitude as 37° 47'57" and longitude as 122° 24'37". On another side of the stone it states that the monument was set by the United States Coast Survey, a third side proclaims two dates, 1869 and 1880. Finally, and this is what caught my eye, the fourth side proclaims the longitude to by astronomic and telegraphic.

If we think about positions, latitude and longitude, at all nowadays, we tend to take it for granted. Soon it seems that every car will have a GPS (global positioning system) built in along with a screen showing a map and your position, all in real time while drinking your coffee, arguing on the cell phone and yelling at the inattentive drivers all around you. In 1807 when Thomas Jefferson authorized the surveying and mapping of the American coasts and ports it was not that simple. The theory of Longitude itself is fairly simple. The earth rotates 360° in 24 hours; each hour of time difference between two points is equal to 15° of longitude. So if you can compare your local time with the local time at the Greenwich Meridian, the difference in degrees gives you the to the longitude east or west of the meridian. The fly in the ointment has always been time. John Harrison, an English clockmaker toiled for decades to perfect a timepiece accurate enough for the purposes of navigating the high seas. In an era of throwaway quartz watches and atomic time standards we take the issue for granted. Even GPS essentially solves the problem of position by solving the equation of time, all you need are some atomic clocks,

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

## Cayman Diving...or Just Another Business Trip to Hell

By Norm Knutson

The weekend before I had to prepare for my daughter Michelles' baby shower and the following weekend prepare for another business trip to L.A. and I was not going to have time to do any diving in Cayman. My boss sent me to Cayman at the last minute and it was suppose to be just long enough to install some voice mail equipment for AT&T Wireless and come home. However, as luck would have it, I had some issues (we call them issues or challenges at Lucent, not problems), so I was forced to spend the weekend there and continue the work the following Monday. I chartered with Bob Sotos' Reef

Divers (great, another Reef Diver organization) and did four dives with them. Last time I went to Cayman was about 20 years ago. Back then, they just took you to the walls and said they are down there and see ya when you get back. Now, they to a wall dive

which is guided and then typically do a more shallower dive in 50' to 60' reef which can be guided or on your own, if you so desire.



On one of the wall dives, called Trinity Caves, we all met (8 divers) at the bottom at 60' and then went over a mini wall to 100' and went into this huge reef with these long swim through cuts into the reef. They reminded you of tunnels or very narrow canyons and slightly opened overhead. With way over 100' of visibility it was an incredible dive. We ran into a few turtles swimming around the reef and then a small school of tarpon. Water temperature was a pleasant 78 to 80 degrees. Gets a little warmer in the summer if that is too cool for ya.

I managed to pis off the skipper on the first day. While he was giving his safety talk, I was busy adjusting my weight belt and not looking at him. All of a sudden, I detected silence and someone glaring at me. So, I repeated his last sentence and he continued

with his briefing after frowning at me.

Later on, I used the "head" (toilet for you landlubbers) on the boat. I missed the part of his briefing of not to use the head. Hey, what is the head on the boat for, wash basin for midgets? Anyways, he wanted to know if I heard him earlier. He suggested I use the big blue ocean next time to relieve myself. The next day, the other skipper had no problem with anyone using the head but did suggest it would be "easier" to use the ocean if you felt the need to go.

Two days later, I read in the local paper that the day after my second day of diving, a 71 year old diver was diving along the same wall and then just started going down, down, and just kept going. Probably when someone realize he was not coming back up, he was too far away for anyone to go after him and reach him and not risk their own life. Not sure if he had a heart attack and had too much weight or he just wanted to go for one last deep dive and check out.

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### A CONTINUATION OF ALL THE OTHER ENTERTAINMENT NOTICES

Taking a break from all the crazy deep divers and other types I'm so fond of, I thought it would be nice to hear from a "regular" local diver.

So, this month's meeting will feature Mike Boom an East Bay sort of guy who will be bringing a collection of video clips of adventures near and far.

I expect he'll be bringing "footage" of some local stuff as well as the South Pacific, the Solomons, who knows?

See you.

The Entertainment Czar

## REEFER RAP 2004

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
01 - New Year's Day - Point Lobos 07 - Officer's Meeting 10 - Cypress Sea <b>21 - Meeting - Sinbad's</b> 24- Monterey Beach Dive	04 - Officer's Meeting 07 - Cypress Sea - (3 Dives) - Sat - Pierre - 415.285.6293 <b>18 - Meeting - Sinbad's</b>	03 - Officer's Meeting <b>17 - Meeting - Sinbad's</b> 20 - Cypress Sea - (3 Dives) - Sat - Pierre - 415.285.6293
APRIL	MAY	JUNE
03 - Abalone Opener - Fort Ross 07 - Officer's Meeting 17 - Cypress Sea - (3 Dives) - Sat - Pierre - 415.285.6293 <b>21 - Meeting - Sinbad's</b>	05 - Officer's Meeting <b>19 - Meeting - Sinbad's</b> 22 - Cypress Sea - (3 Dives) - Sat - Pierre - 415.285.6293	02 - Officer's Meeting 12 - Cypress Sea - (3 Dives) - Sun - Pierre - 415.285.6293 <b>16 - Meeting - Sinbad's</b> TBD - Abalone Closer
JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
07 - Officer's Meeting <b>21 - Meeting - Sinbad's</b> 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 - Kayaking the Caves of Santa Cruz Island <b>18 - Meeting - Sinbad's</b>	01 - Officer's Meeting 04 - Cypress Sea - (3 Dives) - Sat - Pierre - 415.285.6293 10 - 12 - Lake Tahoe Dive - Norm Knutson <b>15 - Meeting - Sinbad's</b> 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 <b>20 - Meeting - Sinbad's - Officer            Nominations !!!</b>	03 - Officer's Meeting <b>17 - Meeting - Sinbad's - Officer Elections            !!!</b> 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 <b>15 - Meeting - Sinbad's - Christmas Party            !!!</b>

## SFRD Abalone Opener POT LUCK

When: April 3<sup>rd</sup>, the first Saturday in April  
Where: Fort Ross parking lot  
Time: 9:00 AM  
Coordinator: Gene Kramer

Fort Ross State Park requires a small entrance fee (used to be \$4.00)

Day's events: We'll dive until noon and then gather at the lower picnic area, the one that is protected from the predominant winds from the north, for a pot luck luncheon. There will be a lot of other divers and clubs at the same picnic area, so be prepared for a fun party.

What will be provided: Propane stove, frying pans, coking and pounding utensils, bread crumbs, lemon, etc.

What to bring: Your favorite pot luck dish and some paper plates, plastic utensils, paper cups, and whatever you need to serve your goodies to whoever. (One nice thing to bring might be some fixings for coffee or tea, so we can sober up for the long ride back home at the end of the day.)

Note:

- There is no parking at the lower parking area, so you have to drop off your stuff and park back on the upper lot.
- For those of you who have no idea of how to find an abalone or how to get it off the rocks when you do, both Ken and I are happy to provide tutorials and assistance to newbies. Fort Ross has legal abalone in 10 feet or water.
- If you dive for abs, you must have a fishing license and an abalone punch card. Be sure you record your catch when you get back to shore or back to your car. The local wardens will be checking, and they really want the money that you will have to pay in fines if you are caught.
- All abalone retained must be over 7 inches. You must have an abalone iron, and an ab gauge with you.
- If you are diving in northern California and you have never been diving for abalone then you need to kick yourself. We have the best abalone fishing in the world, for the biggest species in the world, the red abalone. These critters are a real delicacy and can easily command prices to \$75 to \$100 per pound on the open market. If you have never eaten abalone, you have missed out on one of life's great treats.

**Come and join us!**





## 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](mailto:kk3@pacbell.net), available via email Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Deposit with Liz at Roatan Charters to secure a spot: [liz@roatan.com](mailto: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>



## **FULL** CHANNEL ISLANDS TRIP ON 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



**Stammtisch from page 2**

and a constellation of satellites and a ground based monitoring system. Ancient mariners would have recognized key components of today's system.

Early chronometers essentially solved the problem of longitude as far as navigators were concerned. Surveyors, however, were still not satisfied. The emerging science of geodesy sought to more accurately map the shape and size of the earth. The most accurate chronometers of the time weren't good enough. Prior to the laying of the transatlantic telegraph cable, the Coast Survey had made over 1200 chronometer transits between the United States and England to determine the Longitude of the east coast. The variances in time where in the four to five second range or almost a mile when translated to position. Surveyors on land had the advantage of using highly accurate astronomic clocks, the problem was that these clocks achieved their accuracy through the use of long pendulums, fine on land, but impossible at sea. Enter the telegraph, the Internet of its age. By combining the telegraph with time provided by the United States Naval Observatory, the Coast Survey had "longitude by wire". In 1869 San Francisco and Cambridge were connected by telegraph. One of the tangible results sits in Washington Square. As for the Coast Survey, the name has changed over the years, but it is still with us a part of NOAA (National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration).

As a side note the first Superintendent of the US Survey of the Coast as well as what is

now the National Bureau of Weights and Measures and a Professor of Mathematics at West Point was Ferdinand Rudolph Hassler, born in Aarau, Switzerland. But that's a whole other story.

If you happen to be in the neighborhood, don't miss popping into Tony Niks Café; it's an off name for a bar, but still a great bar. When you step inside you'll feel like you've passed backwards into another time. I half expected Dean Martin to come out of the men's room at any moment. The bartender is all business, mixing good drinks, the kind of no-nonsense mixology that's getting to be a lost art. With a porkpie hat jammed straight on his head, the bartender made short work of my Manhattan. Gerda meanwhile was sipping her Gibson and watching the clientele. Great place to relax after a day of wandering around downtown and it is nowhere near as crowded as nearby Moose's.

By now the primary elections have come and gone. I note my voter's guide lists the American Independents, Democratic, Green, Libertarian, Natural Law Peace and Freedom and Republican Parties. For those who are undecided there is the catchall "unaffiliated": With all the variety, I'm amazed that everyone doesn't vote, with absentee ballots, you don't even have to leave the comfort of your Barcalounger. I always enjoy reading the "proponents argument in favor" the "rebuttal to proponents argument in favor" the opponents argument against" and of course in the interests of balance the "rebuttal to opponents argument against". After reading all that, I can empathize with the

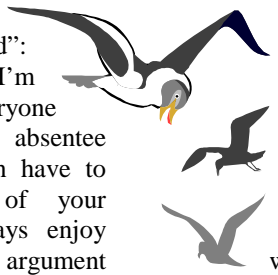
dog chasing his tail around the porch. Who can resist?

Here's a sobering thought for all of you who ever played in a garage band or harbored dreams of leading a Mick Jagger sex, drugs, rock and roll sort of lifestyle. The Fender Stratocaster, the quintessential "electric guitar" has been around since 1954, yep, it's fifty years old no matter how you play it. The "Strat" has been played by the likes of Stevie Ray Vaughn, Eric Clapton, Jimmy Hendrix and Frank Zappa.

So next time your prancing around the house in your underwear like Tom Cruise in "Risky Business" playing air guitar, just remember, your not getting any younger, so go easy on the "whammy bar." I'll be dusting off that old Fender amp and looking for a vacuum tube checker at the local supermarket. Anyone know where I can get a couple of matched 7025s or maybe a pair of 12AX7s? I probably ought to swap the tubes in my car stereo while I'm at it.

Friday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, Gerda and I rolled out of bed and headed for Point Lobos. It was Gerda's birthday, which one I don't remember, what better way to celebrate then a day of diving and rambling around one of our favorite State Parks? We took our time driving down, enjoying the scenery and the fact that we didn't have to go to work. When we rolled into Whaler's Cove, there was Frank King, Pam Radkey and Jim Vallario, all with the same idea in mind. The weather topside was brilliant, sunny, warm and clear as a bell.

**continued on page 9**



**Stammtisch from page 2**

We suited up and headed out towards the mouth of the cove. There was a slight chop at the surface and a bit of swell down bellow. Visibility was in the twenty-foot range, all in all a decent enough dive. We stayed below for thirty minutes or so and then headed back to enjoy our picnic lunch along with the rest of the Reef Divers in attendance. On the way home we decided to cruise up highway One with a stop in Santa Cruz. It was a fun drive marred by a couple of accidents along the way.



Sunday, sitting on the back porch watching the sprinkler mossy back and forth across the garden. Samantha, the cat, moves just enough to stay in a patch of sunshine. Overhead several blackbirds are chasing our resident hawk in large lazy circles, screeching a cawing up a storm. It's amazing to see just how aggressive these relatively small birds can be against a much larger hawk. They must have a nest nearby. So goes life in the city, the sun is slowly receding behind the hill and the charcoal is almost ready for the sacrificial steak. I can only wonder, what would Mike Nelson do?

Hope to see you all in the water soon. There's still room on the March 20 Cypress Sea trip and the diving has been great lately. For those who prefer free diving, don't forget the abalone opener is just around the corner. Next month I may delve into my theory of the origins of the modern abalone craze and how it all comes back to the Wiener Schnitzel. As always, if you don't see an activity you want, step forward and put it on the calendar.

**Business Trip to Hell – from page 3**

I managed to do a shore dive near town at a place call Eden Rock and Devils Grotto. Side by side dive sites. Super dive through a bunch of tunnels and grottos near shore. Ran into groupers, tarpon, squid and every kind of reef fish around. Highly recommend this site if you get a chance to dive Cayman.

Cayman (by the way, it is pronounced Cay\_Man, not Cay\_Men) is noted for its wall diving and the North Wall and some of the walls on the West side will not disappoint you. Even the shallow (50-60 ft.) reefs will not disappoint you.

I just got back from Cayman and found out yesterday, I have to return tonight. Something about message waiting indicators not working properly. Some of my peers think I did that on purpose so I can return. But this time it will be strictly business, yeah right, just like next time. But if I bring any dive equipment, I probably won't have time to use it and if I leave it home, I will have the opportunity and will be forced to rent the gear. Sometimes work can be hell. By the way, did I mention there is a place called Hell on the island. People flock there just so they can say they have been to Hell. Some even send postcards from Hell to their friends at their local church. Well I'm going to Hell tonight (on the island of Cayman).

See ya soon and keep getting wet!



**OUR NEWEST ADDITION TO SFRD!**

Blue and Bushan Mudbhary are the proud parents of a beautiful baby girl! Indigo was born on Feb 28, weighing 9lbs and one ounce, and 21 inches long. Mom is said to be recovering, while Dad has found the joys of anticipating the nature and quality of his daughter's diaper changes!

## LAST MONTH'S DEEP DIVE BETWEEN THE STORMS

By Kenneth Gwin

We launched at Whaler's Cove on a day everybody thought was going to be blown out.

But, no.

Gordo, Dan, and Marcos P-G were all revved to go. What the hell.

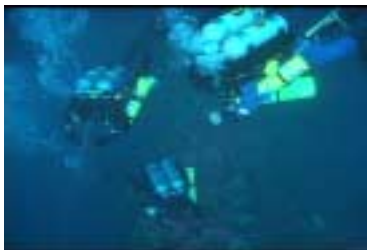
Swell model? People had been looking at the predictions and it could have gone either way.

But, actually being there and looking at the cove, things looked promising. It was, however, an exceptionally high tide.

But, really, it wasn't bad (really). The cove was flat with iffy viz and except for the big wall of water coming through the "pass" at Cannery Pt., all's well. A couple of big rollers, probably 8 foot or so, as we motored out, a light breeze, slight overcast--what's the problem?

Where to dive? E3. D3? Anyway, dropped the hook on the tail end of a nice deep reef, 148-210 flashed back and forth on the depth finder.

Over the side, we dropped off the line in mild current and fell gently gliding down into very deep blue water.



Falling in formation, we could soon see patterned and heavily rippled sand coming up as sea pen world came into focus.



We could see the anchor chain ahead of us dribbling off the rocks and snaking along the sand at 205 feet.



Crossing over the reef I'm thinking we're working our way slowly up. I glance at my depth gauge and it still is reading 205 feet.

Looking over the far side of the reef, the bottom is another 15 feet straight down, but the bottom is tipping so sharply out towards the deep, spooky "Vortex" I feel like I'm diving the Mystery Spot.



The reef? Here it's a gargantuan structure 70 feet above us with sunlight filtering down behind it.

Interesting behavior with the neighborhood that day. Not a lot of aggregating fish. Everybody seemed tucked away. No big schools of blue rockfish. There were no deep diving sea lions buzz bombing us. There were still a good number of medium sized vermilion, chinias, small lings, greenlings, etc. And, I did see my second juvenile yellow eye rockfish. Very small, exotic, very shy, and gone before I could get Gordo over for a good shot.

Viz, 45-50 feet top to bottom (maybe even better at the surface).

Our trip up through deco world was a pleasant drift off the anchor line in blue water.



We watched Dan juggle 3 stage bottles practicing for even deeper dives and I got to drive Marcos' camera while he deployed "ze bag."



Gee, it was even flatter when we got back to the surface.

Weather predictors. Go figure.



# Flotsam & Jetsam

## Tagging sharks? Science or the latest in extreme sports?

Dr. Ramon Bonfil, of the Wildlife Conservation Society, spends part of his time fishing off the coast of South Africa, for great white sharks, not for trophies, but for science. He uses two hooks tied together and attached to a chain. The chain is tied to a rope and the whole apparatus is attached to an oversize buoy that tires the shark out as it tries to escape.

Dr. Bonfil is tagging great whites with satellite transmitters to track their movements and migration patterns, working in concert with the marine and coastal management branch of the South African Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism. South Africa has found the great whites to be a major tourist draw.

After a shark is tagged, they are hoisted onto a sling, and then two veterinarians place a wet towel over its eyes and a hose with aerated water in its mouth. The researchers then attach a satellite tag to a fin, and the veterinarians inject several drugs to speed the shark's recovery, including antibiotics and a drug to counteract the lactic acid that builds in its tissues during a struggle. To follow the sharks travels check ...  
[netviewer.usc.edu/web/WCShark\\_demo.htm](http://netviewer.usc.edu/web/WCShark_demo.htm).

## Divers in Pearl Harbor uncover secrets of USS Arizona

This past Sunday marked 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.

## Vegas Casino to exhibit hammerhead shark

The Mandalay Bay hotel and casino has released a 6-foot long 60-pound hammerhead shark into a 1.3 million gallon saltwater tank that already houses a sandtiger, sandbar, nurse and white tip reef sharks, along with an array of other marine life.

Officials of the hotel claim this will be the first time that a hammerhead shark has gone on display at a closed-system aquarium. The 5-year old shark was captured off the coast of Florida and has been held in seclusion for almost two years.

## World's largest fish market to move

The Tsukiji Fish Market in Tokyo is the largest in the world. Every day, shortly before dawn, in the center of the city, tuna is lined up on the concrete floors of seven auction houses. Buyers in rubber boots swing and prick fish with long hooks to test for fat content. Bluefin tuna have sold for as much as \$100,000.

Aside from seafood, the markets 57 acres handles over 1 million tons of fruit vegetables and other food items. More than 50,000 people pour through the market every day, spending some \$6 billion a year.

Now after 65 years, City planners are hoping to draw even more people and their wallets and purses with a complex modeled after San Francisco's Fisherman's Wharf, complete with the requisite souvenir shops, museums, housing, restaurants and a cooking school.

## New depth record

Mark Ellyatt, a British diving instructor, set a new worlds record for scuba diving. In a dive that took 12 minutes on the way down and almost 7 hours on the way up, Mark reached a depth of 311meters (1,026.9 feet) beating the previous record set by John Bennett by 3meters.

The dive took place off the resort island of Phuket, Thailand where Mark is a technical diving instructor. Mark carried 6 tanks with him on the dive and had a further 24 tanks brought to him by support divers.

## Cross Dressing Lobster?

A couple of bored lobster fishermen dressed a female lobster in a Barbie outfit, complete with pink heels and put the crustacean in a friend's trap last September.

Since that time the Barbie lobster has been hauled up and thrown back at least 10 times that the two know of. Barbie hasn't been seen for awhile, but the pair hope that she made it through the season with heels intact.





**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  
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