



### **ABALONE CLOSER – SALT POINT - NOVEMBER 26**

Had enough turkey, tired of uncle Bob snoring on the sofa, are you satiated with football? Well here's your chance to get away for it all. Loretta is organizing his year's abalone closure, we'll meet at the Salt Point Parking lot, Saturday, November 26 at 09:00 and take it from there. Bring your favorite frying pan; grab some eggs and bread crumbs, don't forget your license, ab iron and gauge.

While your there take a look at the Sandstone all around you, this is where the streets of San Francisco come from. Sandstone from Salt Point was used in the construction of San Francisco's streets and buildings during the mid 1800's. If you look closely at the rocks at Gerstle Cove, you can still see eyebolts where the ships anchored while sandstone slabs were loaded onboard. Quarried rocks can still be seen scattered along the marine terrace north of Gerstle Cove. Look for the drill holes along the edges of the rocks that were used to separate the large rocks into smaller slabs.

### **NOVEMBER'S ENTERTAINMENT - WHERE THE BIG FISH ROAM**

Over the past year a number of divers have become attracted to diving the deep-water pinnacles off Pt. Sur.

Various club members have joined in this adventure--Curtis, Marcos, myself, and others, making the dive some 30 miles south of Monterey, 4 to 7 miles out to sea, 120 to 200 feet down into sometimes rough seas, sometimes ripping current, enjoying usually 70 to 100 foot visibility.

This area, called Schmieder Banks, is remarkably rich with unbelievably dense hydrocoral growth spreading out across acres of beautiful rocky terrain, and dramatic underwater spires.

Marcos Perreau Guimaraes will bring a video documenting a number of trips to this area, outline the equipment and protocols used in making these dives, and talk about the amazing big fish found in this area.

Come sea the giant scallops.

Talk to a wolf eel.

**Der Stammtisch**

Looking out the window, I suddenly realized that tomorrow was Halloween and once again we would see roving bands of young extortionists threaten homeowners and renters alike with those chilling words, "trick or treat". Even the most naïve can easily read the subtext, "what's it gonna be, some candy or your front window?" So where does this strange custom come from? It seems to be celebrated mostly in the United States, Ireland, Canada and the United Kingdom, though Gerda, who is currently in Vienna, tells me that it has become a big business in Vienna as well, only there they say "sweet or sour", but you still get the message. It's heartening to see that the best of American culture is truly trans-national.

The term "Halloween" is derived from *Hallowe'en*, an old contraction, still retained in Scotland and some parts of Canada, of "All Hallow's Eve," so called as it is the day before All Saints day. Those of you who went to parochial school will remember this as "All Hallows," derived from All Hallowed Souls. In Ireland, the name was Hallow Eve, still used by some of a certain venerable vintage. Halloween was formerly also sometimes called *All Saints' Eve*. Like so many of our Christian traditions it has its roots in European paganism, until like Christmas, it was appropriated by the church and given a reinterpretation. In Mexico, All Saint's Day, following Halloween, is the Day of the Dead or *Día de Muertos*.



Halloween is also called *Pooky Night* in some parts of Ireland, presumably named after the *púca*, a mischievous spirit.

In Britain and Ireland, the pagan Celts celebrated the Day of the Dead on All Hallows Day (1st November). The spirits supposedly rose from the dead and, in order to attract them, food was left on the doors. To scare off the evil spirits, the Celts wore masks. When the Romans expanded their empire to Britain, they embellished the tradition with their own, which is the celebration of the harvest and honoring the dead.

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**Payments for membership and activities  
should be mailed to:  
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## REEFER'S RAP 2005

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
01 - New Year's Day - Breakwater 05 - Officers Meeting 15 - Cypress Sea - (3 Dives) 19 - <i>Meeting - Sinbad's</i>	02 - Officers Meeting 12 - Cypress Sea - (3 Dives) 16 - <i>Meeting - Sinbad's</i>	02 - Officers Meeting 05 - Birthday Beach dive - Gerda 12 - Cypress Sea - (3 Dives) 16 - <i>Meeting - Sinbad's</i>
APRIL	MAY	JUNE
02 - Abalone Opener - Fort Ross - CenCal 06 - Officers Meeting 09 - Cypress Sea - (3 Dives) – Sat 20 - <i>Meeting - Sinbad's</i>	04 - Officers Meeting 07- Cypress Sea - (3 Dives) 18 - <i>Meeting - Sinbad's</i> 21 - 22 Scuba Show 2005 Long Beach Convention Center 27 - 29 Channel Islands Aqua Safaris – 831-479-7380	01 - Officers Meeting 11 - Cypress Sea - (3 Dives) - Sun 15 - <i>Meeting - Sinbad's</i> TBD - Abalone Closer
JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
01 - Channel Island Payment Due 06 - Officers Meeting 09 - Cypress Sea - (3 Dives) - Sat. 20 - <i>Meeting - Sinbad's</i>	03 - Officers Meeting 04 - Pt. Lobos Dive 13 - 16 - Channel Islands 17 - Kayaking the Caves of Santa Cruz Island - Norm Knutson 19 - 21 Camping - Salt Point Marc Linowitch	04 - Cypress Sea - (3 Dives) - Sun 07 - Officers Meeting 09 - 11 - Lake Tahoe Dive Norm Knutson 17 - Monterey Beach Cleanup Debra Gilmore 21 - <i>Meeting - Sinbad's</i> TBD - Abalone Opener
OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
05 - Officers Meeting 08 - Cypress Sea - (3 Dives) - Sat. 14 - 16 - Camping at Van Damme with Sacramento Seahorses 19 - <i>Meeting - Sinbad's – Officer Nominations !!!</i>	02 - Officers Meeting 16 - <i>Meeting - Sinbad's - Officer Elections!!!</i> 19 - Cypress Sea - (3 Dives) - Sat. Pierre - 415.285.6293 26 - Abalone Closer - 9:00 at the Salt Point Parking Lot – Loretta 415.305.7517	07 - Officers Meeting 10 - Cypress Sea - (3 Dives) - Sat Pierre - 415.285.6293 * 21 - <i>Meeting - Sinbad's - Christmas Party!!!</i>

## Stammtisch from page 2

These traditions were then passed on to the United States. It's not entirely clear when Hallmark got into the act, but as in all other events in our lives, they did.

There have been a lot of hurricanes in the news lately and you often hear of winds reaching gale force, violent storm or hurricane. Did you ever wonder what it all meant? Well you need merely turn to the *Beaufort Wind Force Scale* (see page 6) for clarification.

Admiral Robert Fitzroy of H.M.S. *Beagle* fame wrote of Admiral Sir Francis Beaufort, "All honor to Beaufort, who used and introduced this succinct method of approximation by scale..." The method, to which Fitzroy refers, one of Beaufort's many accomplishments during his distinguished naval career, is the *Wind Force Scale*, still in widespread use today by men of the sea.

Born in 1774, in County Meath, Ireland, Francis Beaufort went to sea at the age of 13, beginning his nautical career as a cabin boy in the British Navy. After spending some time at sea Beaufort became increasingly aware of the value of being weather-wise and began keeping a meteorological journal, a practice he would continue until his death. At 22, he had risen to the rank of lieutenant.

In 1805, Beaufort was given his first command, H.M.S. *Woolwich*, and assigned to conduct a hydrographic survey of the Rio de la Plata region of South America. During these early years of command, he developed the first versions of his *Wind Force Scale and Weather Notation* coding, which he was to use in his journals for the remainder of his life.

Beaufort's assignment during the years 1811 and 1812 brought him to the Levant (modern-day Lebanon) for a combined

hydrographic study and patrol mission against the pirates operating out of the area. In June, 1812, Beaufort sent a survey party ashore to make astronomical observations. When the party encountered armed hostilities from the local pashas, Beaufort led the rescue. As they were rowing back to H.M.S. *Fredrikssteen*, Beaufort was struck in the groin by sniper fire. The ball fractured Beaufort's hip, and he subsequently spent several months convalescing aboard ship.

As a result of his injury, Beaufort never returned to active sea duty although he would remain in the British Navy until the age of 81. In 1829, Beaufort was appointed Hydrographer to the Admiralty. From this post, he outlined the hydrographic studies for many British expeditions including that of H.M.S. *Beagle*. It was Beaufort who when asked to recommend "a well educated and scientific gentleman be sought" for the journey, came up with Charles Darwin. In 1838, Beaufort's *Wind Force Scale* was introduced for use by the British fleet for all log entries, joining his *Weather Notation*, which had been prescribed for use five years earlier.

The Admiralty promoted Beaufort to Rear Admiral in 1846. Beaufort was bestowed the title Knight Commander of the Bath two years later. In 1855, after 68 years of service, Sir Francis retired from the Admiralty. He died in 1857, but his life's work continued to receive recognition and honor.

Originally, the *Wind Force Scale* consisted of degrees of wind strength, from calm to hurricane, and was based upon the effects of various wind strengths upon the amount of canvas carried by the fully rigged frigates of the period. In the days before meteorological instruments, Beaufort chose for his wind sensor the frigate, the

preeminent ship of the British fleet.

The first five states (Forces 0-4) described a ship's speed with all sails set and clean full, and in smooth water. The next five (Forces 5-9) concerned the ship's mission, the chase, and its sail-carrying ability. The final three Forces (10-12) referred to a ship's ability to survive whole gale, storm, or hurricane.

In 1838, the British Admiralty officially prescribed the Scale and made its use mandatory for all ship's log entries. When the frigate was no longer the dominant ship on the seas, a new "probe" was necessary to determine the wind's force. The original Beaufort force numbers were now subtly changed so that they referred to *states of the sea* or *degrees of motion of trees* instead of the sails on a frigate.

Finally, in 1946, the International Meteorological Committee defined the scale values by ranges of the wind speed as measured at a height of 10 meters above the surface for each Force Number. In effect, this transformed the *Beaufort Wind Force Scale* into the Beaufort Wind Speed Scale.

So the next time you are on the Cypress Sea and the crew starts to pay close attention to the weather channel, and you want to know for yourself, which way the wind blows, see page ...

I finally got all of the clocks and watches in the house set to whatever you call the time when you are not actively saving daylight. Did you ever wonder why, exactly we dither with the clocks a couple of times a year? Clearly this tradition has its roots in a time before VCR's.

Most people seem to associate daylight-savings time with wartime economy, but it actually

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**Stammtisch from page 4**

has its roots in the earliest years of our nation's history.

Like so many things we take for granted, Benjamin Franklin was behind the idea. While living in Paris (they were our friends back then), he wrote an essay titled "An Economical Project for Diminishing the Cost of Light". Despite a possible tongue in cheek intent, Franklin suggested Parisians could start their days earlier and save money by burning fewer candles at night.

First instituted during World War I by the United States in 1918, it proved to be highly unpopular and repealed over President Wilson's veto in 1919. From February 1942 through September 1945, "War Time" was observed in America but later left to local option whether any clock shifting would occur. It was not until the passage of the Uniform

Time Act of 1966, that daylight-savings Time was again adopted, giving state's the option to opt out. Indiana recently decided to get on the band wagon leaving only Hawaii and Arizona without daylight savings time; they must have a high per capita ownership of VCR's.

I'm still having a tough time with my VCR, then again maybe that's a sign that I should do something about my home entertainment system. I have been having a tough time finding a tube tester lately.

As November rolls along and many of us enjoy a holiday, Veterans' Day, or as the British would have it and perhaps more fittingly, Remembrance Day, lets not forget, why we have the day off, to forget history, is to repeat it.

*In Flanders Fields*  
By: Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, MD (1872-1918)

*Canadian Army*

In Flanders Fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie  
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies  
grow  
In Flanders fields.



**ALS WALK IN SUPPORT OF URSULA BERNHARDT**



**Beaufort Wind Scale**

Developed in 1805 by Sir Francis Beaufort of England

Force	Wind (Knots)	WMO Classification	Appearance of Wind Effects	
			On the Water	On Land
0	Less than 1	Calm	Sea surface smooth and mirror-like	Calm, smoke rises vertically
1	1-3	Light Air	Scaly ripples, no foam crests	Smoke drift indicates wind direction, still wind vanes
2	4-6	Light Breeze	Small wavelets, crests glassy, no breaking	Wind felt on face, leaves rustle, vanes begin to move
3	7-10	Gentle Breeze	Large wavelets, crests begin to break, scattered whitecaps	Leaves and small twigs constantly moving, light flags extended
4	11-16	Moderate Breeze	Small waves 1-4 ft. becoming longer, numerous whitecaps	Dust, leaves, and loose paper lifted, small tree branches move
5	17-21	Fresh Breeze	Moderate waves 4-8 ft taking longer form, many whitecaps, some spray	Small trees in leaf begin to sway
6	22-27	Strong Breeze	Larger waves 8-13 ft, whitecaps common, more spray	Larger tree branches moving, whistling in wires
7	28-33	Near Gale	Sea heaps up, waves 13-20 ft, white foam streaks off breakers	Whole trees moving, resistance felt walking against wind
8	34-40	Gale	Moderately high (13-20 ft) waves of greater length, edges of crests begin to break into spindrift, foam blown in streaks	Whole trees in motion, resistance felt walking against wind
9	41-47	Strong Gale	High waves (20 ft), sea begins to roll, dense streaks of foam, spray may reduce visibility	Slight structural damage occurs, slate blows off roofs
10	48-55	Storm	Very high waves (20-30 ft) with overhanging crests, sea white with densely blown foam, heavy rolling, lowered visibility	Seldom experienced on land, trees broken or uprooted, "considerable structural damage"
11	56-63	Violent Storm	Exceptionally high (30-45 ft) waves, foam patches cover sea, visibility more reduced	
12	64+	Hurricane	Air filled with foam, waves over 45 ft, sea completely white with driving spray, visibility greatly reduced	



*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"/> Central California Council of Diving Clubs (CenCal) | 15        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sonoma County Abalone Network (SCAN)                | <u>10</u> |

*Show your support for all three! \$50*

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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/>.

SAN FRANCISCO REEF DIVERS  
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