



MAY 2007

## WHAT'S WITH THE WEATHER? WE NEED TO "GET WET!"

**G**OODNESS GRACIAS SAKES ALIVE! I have not been diving in April this year. We had a close call with Wendy's Sun Diver trip. Jim Vargin and I were VERY apprehensive about the ocean conditions, small craft advisories, Catalina Flyer staying in port and the 40 mph wind that blew a small river current through south Long Beach Harbor! But we boarded the ship put our gear near tanks and headed to McKenna's for a highly anticipated Guinness.

### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

BY  
*Konrad Fry*



Paul Miller and a couple AOTP (Aquarium of the Pacific) volunteers and us braved the night on the boat. The Sundiver actually was bouncing off the pier all night long. Jim and I over the beer were speculating on whether we would just be cancelled or go out and turn back or actually go to Catalina. Our main desire was to have the trip cancelled early in the morning. Off to the bunks we went. Imagine our sheer happiness to hear Wendy come aboard at 5:30 and letting us all know that Captain Ray had canceled the trip! Wooo Hooo. Several SOCDC members (who were way to exuberant) went to breakfast together. We who sheltered on-board decided to go home and to bed with no desire for coffee. This trip set the tone for the whole month.

As previously stated, my gear has not touched the ocean in a month. I could not have been timed better since I re-tiled my fireplace after making a crown-molding top. But you would think the conditions would have let us do one dive. Sadly, between several storm fronts, plankton blooms, and all around bad vis, cold water and heavy surge there was lousy diving to be had.

Several of our members went to Chamber Day and Chamber Night. Neighbor Mike was on the Sun Diver and said his opinion of Catalina diving has changed for the better. Hopefully we will have a few stories of what went on. With my new job I have very little time in the evenings. In fact, my first weekend away was this last one. I saw the dive conditions were in the "it sucks" to poo-ey zone, so Steve Feldman and I with the women went up to see Sandra (Thornton) and Rick Moberly. Sandra has been the club's membership director and secretary. It was opening day of Trout season in California on Saturday

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and Steve and I caught 4 beautiful rainbows at Rock Creek Lake near Tom's place in a hole in the frozen lake. Never before have I seen a more beautiful trout! Their iridescence was purple. After our successful fishing morning, I join Sandra for a great day of skiing at Mammoth Mountain. It was soooo warm that I skied in my t-shirt.

Since I have no dive pictures, I'll just include my shots of Mammoth.

See you at the raftup this Saturday. My God, I have to get diving!

*-Konrad*





## THIS MONTH'S SPEAKER **NICK ICORN**

*By Paul Miller*

# EVOLUTION OF DIVING

A look at diving developed over the ages' from helmets to bells to self-contained apparatus...From scuba in the civil war to the military's contributions. See the first diving class and instructor, and the American who taught the French how to dive and Cousteaus's first equipment see how the sport began.



## NICK ICORN

Attended the first instructor's course in the U.S. at Scripps Institute in 1953. Has been with the L.A.County Instructors Program since 1954. Qualified as an instructor with NAUI, SSI, YMCA, and NASDS. Was the first Executive Director and one of the founders of PADI, Project Director for NAUI, and Program Director of NASDS. He has been a design engineer for US Divers, Healthways, Cavalero, Airco Cryogenics, Sherwood Selpac, and Ocean Dynamics. He has twice been presented with the NOGI Award from the Academy of U/W Arts and Science, and the Conrad Limbaugh Memorial Award, and was presented with the DEMA Reaching Out Award and inducted into the Diving Hall of Fame. He currently serves as the Director of the National Underwater Museum.



# Summer Dive Boats —

## What's happening at SOCDC

*By Wendy Taylor*

June 23<sup>rd</sup> will be our retry of the Sundiver to Farnsworth Banks and Catalina Island. At this time all seats are full and we have a wait list. Contact Wendy at the club meeting or at [soccdiveboat@hotmail.com](mailto:soccdiveboat@hotmail.com) to be included on the waitlist or make changes on the roster for this trip. Refunds will be given to any diver that can not make this new date.

### **Magician to San Clemente Island - Sunday July 29<sup>rd</sup>**

11 spots on the Magician for our club. We are splitting boat with Aqua Adventures Open Water Class. 7 spots are left on our list.

\$135 members, \$140 non-members includes food, and air.

You need to bring all your gear on this boat.  
**That means tanks are not provided.**

Boat leaves at 1am and returns at 5:30-6:30pm.

**You can board the night before after 7:00pm.**

Check <http://www.magician.com/> for directions to it's location in San Pedro.

### **Sundiver to Santa Barbara Island- Saturday August 18<sup>th</sup>**

\$140 members, \$150 non-members includes food, tanks and air

\$50 for non-divers includes food and a great day out on the water

Boat leaves at 6:00AM returns 5-6PM from Alamitos Bay

check <http://www.sundiver.net/> for directions

Can board the night before, after 8:00PM

Wine tasting on trip home, anyone on the boat can participant. If you choose to join the tasting, all that is required is a bottle to share. Also bring a wine glass if you would like to taste in style. The theme of the wine tasting is "Orange County Fair Gold Award Winners". This will be a blind tasting with ballots for all participants score. The owners of the most popular wines will receive Awards.

Signup for any of these summer trips by sending an email to [soccdiveboat@hotmail.com](mailto:soccdiveboat@hotmail.com) or by contacting Wendy at our May dive club meeting. Boat bunks are assigned on a first signup and pay, first choose basis. Spots are secured by sending checks to **SOCDC, PO Box 3687, Mission Viejo, CA 92690**

*Wendy Taylor*



# Special Events

## A Day at the Races and The Scuba Show

*By Don Spencer*



### Day at the Races - Where the TURF MEETS the SURF at OLD DEL MAR

Hey everyone, we are looking to plan a trip to the horse races in late July at grand old DEL MAR racetrack. We may try to get in a morning dive and then spend the day at the races for lots of excitement and fun. Gary Cornell and myself will handicap the whole race card so that you can have some true expert picks and inside information. Having both had race horse for some time I can say that Del Mar is one of the best places to go spend a day, race a horse and possibly make some good money. Only GUARANTEE will be to have a good time with good friends.... I will arrange a tour of the paddock and/or stable area for those interested. See pictures

### Scuba Show 2007

Coming this June 2nd and 3rd in Long Beach. Discount coupons available in the California Diving News. Several of our members, myself included, will be attending the Casino night that follows on Saturday night. For a real fun time plan on attending this event and if real lucky you can win some real nice prizes. All proceeds go to SHIPS to REEFS which is something I think almost all of us would like to see happen. Please see following excerpt from CA DIVING NEWS on CASINO NIGHT. I believe the cost is \$25 and you receive \$400



in casino chips. Each \$100 at the end of the night gets you a raffle ticket for the prizes and they have lots of them.

CASINO PARTY BENEFIT Social highlight of the SCUBA Show is the Casino Night benefit party. This year the party will benefit the California Ships to Reefs ([www.cs2r.org](http://www.cs2r.org)) program seeking to enhance the

California underwater environment with the placement of surplus ships on the ocean floor as artificial reefs up and down the California coast. Participants will "gamble" the night away playing Black Jack, Roulette and Craps. A very popular event is the Texas Hold-up tournament (arrive early for a spot!). At the end of the evening participants will "cash out" their chips for raffle tickets for a drawing for thousands of dollars in prizes. Also during the evening is a Silent Auction for thousands of dollars in dive gear and more. Come to pick up some bargains! Sponsors of the event and prize contributors include Deep Outdoors, Zeagle, Scubapro, Divers Alert Network (DAN), Trident, Ikelite, Sherwood, Mares, DUI, Pacific Wilderness, Apollo, Santa Catalina Island Co., Inside Afghanistan, Sport Chalet, and Chammyz. Prizes and silent auction items include dive computers, underwater cameras, regulators, dive clothing, BCDs and more.

*Don Spencer*

*Meeting is May 9th at 6:30 - Fudd's*

*Our trip to Roatan is just about full...  
only a few spots left. Sign-up NOW.*

*Want to see a PREVIEW? Click on this  
link to see an overview of the Fantasy  
Island Resort*

<http://www.fantasyislandresort.com/us/index.html>



**Come join us Wednesday Night  
for Good Food and Good Friends!**

