



Our Flag Was Still There
usa-flag-site.org

July 2010

General Meeting - Sun - July 4th

Robin's House for pool party

Board Meeting - Tue - July 20th

Nipper's house



A.V. Desert Divers

P.O. Box 1178
Littlerock, Ca 93543



2010 Upcomming Events Calendar

Jul. 4 - 4th of July BBQ

Aug. 9 - General Meeting

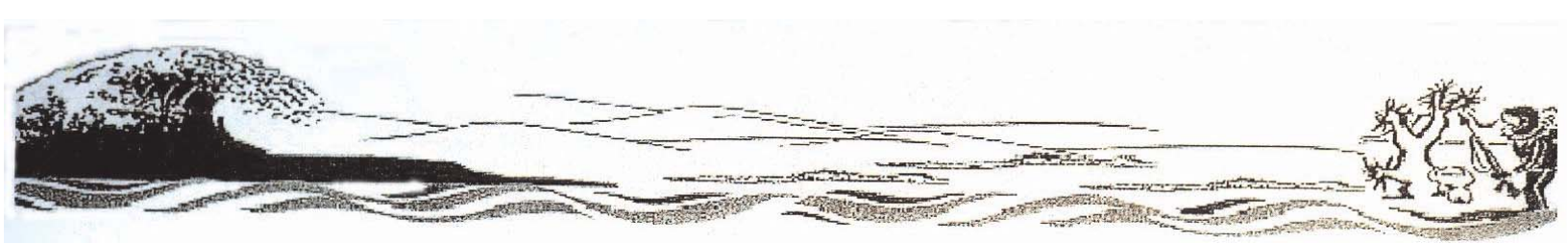
Sept. 1-4 - June Lake Cleanup

Oct. 1st - Opening of Lobster Season

See this Newsletter in

Blazing Color at:

www.avdesertdivers.org



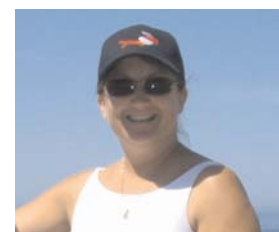
Summer Is Here,

There is so much going on with AVDD, don't miss out.! The Clam Chowder Dive was a huge success. We had over 20 people came and enjoyed what turned out to be a great day. The sun was shining and we had some excellent chowder. Much thanks to Robert Wisdom who spear headed this year's event. We have some other great things coming up over the summer, so read your newsletter, come to the meetings and get involved.

As a reminder, we are considering moving the venue of the meetings. The Cultural Center is starting to charge \$33 per hour for each meeting, which as a non-profit, hits really hard. So make sure and read your newsletter to stay informed when we move.

Have a great week and we'll see you on Sunday At the Pool Party!

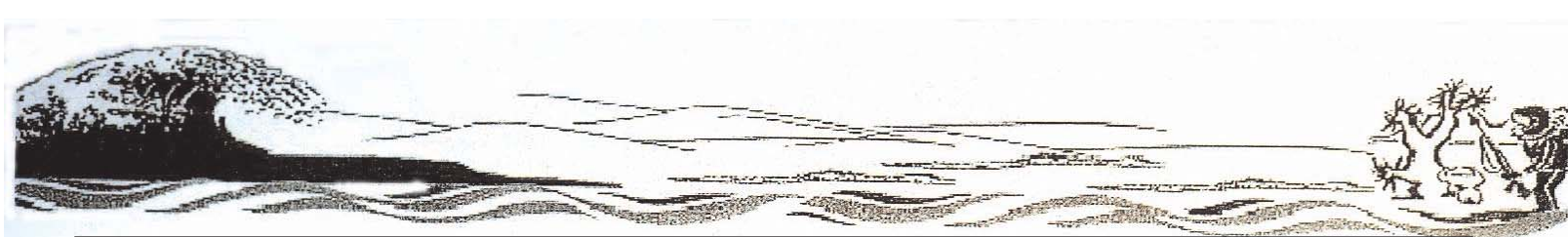
Your Pres, Linda



2010 AVDD Board of Directors

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(All # are 661 area code)



AVDD presents its annual July 4th Barbeque!



This year the festivities will be held on Sunday the Fourth of July at Robin's house. Located at 43636 Tomahawk Pl.; take Ave K to 42ndst West, you can turn north only. Go down 1 block & go West on Stagecoach to Tomahawk Pl., Second house on the left (east side) of the Street.

The club will provide hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks. Please bring a lawn chairs and a side dish (salad or dessert), your swimsuit and towel. If you have a favorite pool 'toy', bring that too!

The party begins at 12:00 AM so come join your Desert Diver buddies for an afternoon of great food, a refreshing pool and fun dive friends. If you would like more information please contact any of your board members or Terry at 661-942-1042. We hope to see you on the 4th of July!



Who Was That Masking Crab?

Not all of us can call upon an expert from the Los Angeles Museum of Natural History to identify the wee beasties that we meet and greet on our dives in Southern California. I am sure that Leslie Harris would be more than glad to help, but she is a busy woman, as well as a gifted one.

The good news is that there is a 2nd edition newly revised of Daniel W. Gotshall's "Guide to Marine Invertebrates: Alaska to Baja California." I have counted on the first edition for several years to make me seem a lot smarter than I am as I lead my students through the wonderful biome here in Southern California that we love so much. Now I can be even smarter with the second, revised edition of "Guide to Marine Invertebrates - Alaska to Baja California" because it includes 35 species not included in the first edition, including 13 nudibranchs. Information on each species has been updated from the first edition.

The editorial review says, "This is a beautiful, full color field guide describing 285 species of inshore, subtidal marine invertebrates that are commonly observed by biologists, divers and naturalists from the Gulf of Alaska to central Baja California." Each species is illustrated with a color photo and has a narrative which includes habitat, identification, depth, geographic range and size. 7" x 9", 123 pages, 290 color plates, pictorial key and glossary.

You can get it from the publisher at <http://www.seachallengers.com> for \$29.95. Once again, shop around. You may do better than I did.

Scuba Jack





Hello all!

Well, all the other boats have left and it is just little Skylight that sits here in this beautiful side of the lagoon. And it is so beautiful. Did I mention that these little “motus” (islands) are uninhabited? And don't have a name on the charts?

The guide books don't even show an anchorage here and there are no charts for the inside of the lagoon here. We heard that there are six boats at the first place we anchored and I highly doubt our solitude here will be bothered.

Last night we had a full moon and I woke up and came out on deck. There was hardly any wind and the lagoon was a calm and Skylight was becalmed as if tied to a slip. The moon lit up the motus and the water below us, I could still see the coral heads and sand below us even though it was dark. Every time we are out and about, I look around in wonder and I am amazed by the fact that we are actually here. We hear on the radio other boats that are in the other atolls that we plan to visit and from what I hear, Tahanea just may be a piece of paradise that we may not experience again. No village with people, therefore drawing no cruisers looking for provisions, water, pearls, and fuel.

We did have the chance to look around three of the motus on the West side before coming here. There was a few small buildings and although the guidebook says that this is used during Copra season (coconut harvesting), it looked to us more like a little fishing outpost. There was also a very little church (thanks Bruce for the info) and we took pictures of everything.

For the past two days here, we have explored six of the motus on this Southeast side. We can circumnavigate by foot an entire island in one hour or less. Imagine no foot prints but your own.....On the lagoon side of the island there are white sand beaches and on the rough east side there are coral reefs that extend about a mile out protecting the motus. We are surprised that although there are plastics found up on shore, there is hardly as much as we expected.

By the way, we enjoy everyone's responses to our emails and updates. Being away from home we really look forward to them!

Until next time..... Ka'oha Nui!

Claudia, Brian and Lorraine



A word from your Conservation Officer

Here's a little word on conserving some of your gear. Some of you may have read about the guy down in Aruba who, Back in November 2009, lost his Nikon camera while engaged in a salvage operation to recover the bell off the USS Powell which was sunk during WWII protecting Aruba from German forces, The camera's owner lost the camera which floated away without his knowledge, The camera managed to float for about 6 months and almost 1100 miles before being found in Key West Florida, After 6 months at sea the camera looked like a big green blob, After the guy that found it took it apart, he downloaded the pictures to try to find out who owned the camera? There were many images of people and places along with a video that a hungry sea turtle managed to instigate by trying to eat the camera housing, after putting the images on Scubaboard.com. Several people came forward identifying who the owner might be, and now the camera is on it's way back to it's rightful owner, Which brings me to the point of this article, I remember way back in SCUBA certification school that my instructor told me to identify EVERYTHING, right down to your tube of anti fog for your mask, Had the fellow that lost the camera had some sort of identification in the camera housing, his camera would have found it's way back to him with much less drama.

So there's your Conservation tip of the month, Put your name on everything you own and if possible, even add your phone number, Those little stick on address labels you get in the mail work great on lots of items, and would help get them back to you in the event they went diving without you.

You're Conservation Officer

Larry Ladd

