

AquaMarines

“Who Could Get Tired of Diving La Jolla Shores”

By: Sarah Araujo

Oh yes, La Jolla Shores. We've all been there, the open water classes practically live there. In fact, on a Saturday in the summer it gets hard to find a place to park, much less finding a place to stow your gear while you're diving. But for some reason, we keep going back. Yes, some days or nights are worth it but is that all there is around here? The answer is no, of course not. Whether you have been diving the southern California coast your entire life or have just been certified and need some variety, check out these hot spots and who loves diving them.

Though it's been a while since my last visit, Shaw's cove in Laguna is my favorite spot. Shaw's Cove has neighborhood parking, so put your gear on at the car. After that it is a relatively short walk down some steps, then a short fin to the reef. The reef starts immediately so you can even descend in 10 feet of water or less, no marathon swim like the Shores. Once under water, enjoy being harassed by Garibaldi, as well as see Nudibranch, Sheephead, Sea Bass, and a resident Moray Eel who is not afraid to say hello.

Everyone knows Yuri and if you don't, shame on you. He loves Seal Rock in Laguna, just off of Shaw's Cove. On one certain day, visibility was fantastic. "It is a bit of a shallow dive, but a lot of aquatic life, the bottom is not just sand. You'll see the occasional seal swim by, and the sea urchins are massive". Yuri also has experience with Shaw's Cove at night and saw a Nurse Shark, a Horn Shark, and a Harbor Seal even joined the dive to play with him. Wherever Yuri and his dive buddy seemed to shine their light, the seal would want to check it out too, even going so far as to tug on their fins.

Where does Occhi like to dive? "When there's no swell, the Swami's". Located in Encinitas and only 45 feet at max depth, the variety is endless. There are swim throughs and kelp which hide lots of Spanish Shawl, Scorpionfish, Sheephead, Leopard sharks, and Sheep Crabs. On one particular night dive during the winter months, Occhi experienced her best dive there. "I saw a lot of nudibranchs at the swim through. It was more like cave diving with all the crevices. I even saw a yellow octopus, camouflaging himself against the reef. The site may be tiny but it has so much of everything, it's incredible."

Adrian, our resident hunter prefers other locations for different reasons. The Encinitas power plant is located near a kelp bed with lots of free diving and it does get quite deep. It is not a typical dive site, it does not have a name, but this is where Adrian loves to hunt. Also, Treasure Island in Laguna offers some great hunting. "Treasure Island has a lot of halibut and lobster but Carlsbad has Sheephead and lobster". Both quite tasty!

If you are still not impressed by our recommendations, try, "Southern California's Best Beach Dives" by Dale and Kim Scheckler. Everyone who lives in southern California should have this book. It covers 70 dive sites with fully reviewed, detailed maps. It covers Santa Barbara, Ventura, Los Angeles, and San Diego counties. The book includes information on marine life, photography, hunting, beach diving tips, and more. Shore dives only cost air fills, there are plenty of dive sites that have campgrounds. So weekend getaways are not out of reach for the financially savvy.

Aquamarines Club Officers

President Conrad Carvajal
Vice President Occhi Moore
Dive Master Dennis Kleyh
Secretary Adrian Ledesma
Treasurer Ray Simon

Have ideas you'd like to share?

Please contact us with any questions, comments, or ideas at

aquamarinespres2007@yahoo.com
Or join the discussion at
Aquamarines-subscribe@yahoogroups.com



- ♦ Meet new dive buddies
- ♦ Attend special events
- ♦ Meet guest speakers
- ♦ Club sponsored diving
- ♦ Only \$25 for Individual or \$40 for Family per year
- ♦ \$10 off any class beyond Open Water
- ♦ \$5 off all dive boat tickets

The next DIVE CLUB MEETING is
Wednesday
18 February at 1830 at
THE SCUBA CENTER

DIVE

TRAVEL

2—4 July 2009

The Conception of Santa Barbara

Reservations taken now.

**Stay tuned for
future dive travel
listings**

**We'll be
raffling off
some great
prizes at the
next Aqua-
marines
meeting.**

\$3 members
\$5 non
members

**Buy your
tickets now!**

**CONGRATULATIONS
DIVERS!!!**

Open Water

Jade Smith
Thomas Marquez
James Irey
Osita Ezumah

Advanced Open Water

Blake Faumuima
Nicholas Dimento
Dustin Cittel

Rescue

Ian Wimmer

Deep Diver

Eric Atchley

DIVE REPORT NUMBERS

SAN DIEGO (619) 221-8824 LAGUNA (949) 494-6573

Check out this website! See the waves before
you decide to dive there!

<http://www.surfingsandiego.com/report.asp>

CA Dept Fish & Game Groundfish

<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/>

Regulations Hotline (831) 649-2801

**FREE!!!
FOR PADI DIVING SOCIETY
MEMBERS-
RECEIVE A FREE PRIZE
FOR ENROLLING IN THE
PADI BOAT DIVER
SPECIALTY IN THE MONTH
OF FEBRUARY....**

**NOT A DIVING SOCIETY
MEMBER? COME IN AND SIGN
UP, OR VISIT www.PADI.com**

WHAT'S COMING UP?

**Nitrox 6 March
Advanced 7, 8 March
EFR 13 March
Rescue 14, 15 March**

THE SCUBA CENTER
 MCCS 14 AREA POOL BLDG. 14116
 Box 555020
 CAMP PENDLETON, CA. 92055-5020

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Receive the Newsletter in Color
ELECTRONICALLY!!
 E-MAIL US AT : raybo@adnc.com



Let The Scuba Center make your Diving Adventure one to remember!
February 2009

Join us for your **2009 Diving**

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
1 Coronados 0700 Yukon/Ruby E 0730 Whale Watching 1300 Yukon 1300	2 OPEN WATER	3	4 Yukon/Ruby E 0800	5	6 NITROX	7 BOAT DIVER ADVANCED O/W Coronados 0700 Yukon/Ruby E 0730 Whale Watching 1300 Yukon/NOSC Tower 1300
8 Coronados 0700 Yukon/Ruby E 0730 Whale Watching 1300 Yukon 1300	9	10	11 Yukon/Ruby E 0800	12	13	14 O/W WEEKEND Coronados 0700 Yukon/Ruby E 0730 Whale Watching 1300 Yukon/NOSC Tower 1300
15 Coronados 0700 Yukon/El Rey 0730 Whale Watching 1300 Yukon 1300	16 OPEN WATER	17 Aquamarines 1830	18 Yukon/Ruby E 0800	19	20 EFR	21 RESCUE Coronados 0700 Yukon/Ruby E 0730 Whale Watching 1300 Yukon/NOSC Tower 1300
22 Coronados 0700 Yukon/Ruby E 0730 Whale Watching 1300 Yukon 1300	23	24	25 Yukon/Ruby E 0800	26	27	28 Coronados 0700 Yukon/Ruby E 0730 Whale Watching 1300 Yukon/NOSC Tower 1300