

Triton's Call

NASJAX SCUBA DIVING CLUB

www.nasjaxscubadivers.org

September 2022



President's Comments - Kathy Lawler

Let's talk Venice Beach Fossils

In Venice visibility is usually limited; it is almost black water diving. The diver goes through the dark water until the bottom is reached, a friendly patch of white sand. Then the diver should look for black shiny V or triangle shapes. Look for debris and other fossils to find the Meg teeth. Other kinds of items that have been found by club members include Megalodon teeth 5-6 inches, hemipristis or snaggletooth, whale teeth and ear bones, dolphin ear bones, horse teeth and camel teeth, sting ray barbs and mouth plates, gator teeth and scutes, and shell casts. Most divers make several trips to Venice before they find anything significant, so keep trying.

See you at 7pm on October 5th at the new meeting location:

Casa Amigos Mexican Bar & Grill 11112 San Jose Blvd. (near Ale House & I-295) We will meet in the back room.

Thanks, 🍷

Kathy

Vice President- vacant

Dive Club Secretary-Carol Hughes

Christmas Party: Orange Park Fish House December 10th at 6:00

***PLEASE send information-dive reports, etc. for the newsletter either by email message, an editable PDF, a Word or Google document to me by the 1st week of each month.

(clhughes287@gmail.com)

***I will be updating the Club Roster (at some point.) Please pay for your membership to be included on the Roster. Also, if any of your demographics have changed since earlier this year, please email me as to your new info.



Thanks,

Carol

Dive Club Treasurer – Venessa Wood

Our club bank account balance is \$1,300+.

Dive Club Safety Officer – vacant

Submitted by Kathy

Dive Buddy

Being a dive buddy is more than just a gear check and hand signals. The dive buddy should know and be familiar with his partner's equipment. Be familiar enough to dump buddy's weights, inflate BC, and disengage the octopus as needed. Reminder before helping tap or touch the buddy to see if assistance is needed. Most of the time, just a calm presence nearby will help the diver. Then the diver will make his/ her own adjustments and the dive continues successfully. If assisting the buddy to the surface keep your eyes on their eyes. Watch out for the saucer size eyes that indicate panic. Hopefully no one in the dive club will have use this information.

Dive Club Webmaster - Sharon Green

Website Traffic:

64 Unique visits

207 page views

Sharon

904-755-2218

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Dive Reports:

Major Nimock and I dived in West Palm on 8/21/22 with Narcosis. Packed boat. About 24 divers. Had checked to doing Governor's Riverwalk but current way too strong to where you could see water roiling over the wrecks as it would unwell from the wrecks. Headed south to Paul's Reef. Very nice dive with water temp a balmy 87°. Seas were a little sporty and we had moderate north current. Saw lots of tropicals and many juveniles. Saw one juvenile spotted moray. Saw 3 bugs with 0 taken. Viz was about 50'. First group down did some sharks but we saw none.

2nd dive was on North Breakers. Water temp was 86°. Saw similar tropicals as first dive but for some reason there were thousands of blue Chromis. Saw one small bug. Very relaxing dive until near the end of dive when current really picked up. A little rough getting back on boat, but we survived.

Major and I did 2 more dives today very similar to yesterday as first dive was at Flower Gardens and 2nd dive was on N. Breakers. We dive with Walkers DiveCharters on "The Wetter the Better". First dive was max 52' for 44 min. Boat was less packed than yesterday...only 6 divers. It was like heaven! No big stuff seen but did see a squid squad and a couple of anemones. Second dive was to 61' for 51 min and we saw lots of big eye grouper a beautiful juvenile queen angel, juvenile puffer and a flamingo tongue nudibranch. Major saw a total of 6 bugs and got one. 5 lived to see another day. Seas were much calmer today 1-2 ft. Great weather, good Crews and wonderful to be wet!

vr Rick Reckert

Venice Dive Report: Kathy

Our odyssey began on Friday September 9th. Ed, Elmer, Sharon, and I met up at the hotel. Actually, we checked in at the same time at the Hampton Inn. The hotel is perfectly located between dive shop and marina. From the hotel we drove to the dive shop to sign our waivers and look around. There are some wonderful fossils on display at Venice Dive Charters. I have included a few photos. Next, we drove to the marina so we would know the way for the early morning departure. Following a recommendation, we ate dinner at Captain Eddie's on the Tikki Patio. The food, fellowship, and live music added to the dining experience. After dinner we celebrated Ed's 84th birthday! He ate birthday cake ice cream and laughed at the bare-chested girl who showed up at his hotel door! It was a beautiful baby girl who wandered down the hall.

Saturday 9/10: Willy met us at the boat. The dive began under cloudy skies, a rainbow off in the distance. A storm was predicted for the afternoon. The seas were flat, air temp 85, water temp 83, slight current, and poor visibility. Not apparent from the boat was "whale snot"

everywhere, a brown mucus looking algae was present. The Viz was 2-3 ft, and once in a while there was a clear patch with no algae. Sharon had a short dive she wasn't feeling well. I continued and had a bit of luck. I found one 2 inch meg, one large fragment, and 10 smaller teeth. My bit of luck was going up to see where the boat was, going back down and landing in a clear spot where I found my little meg. Unfortunately, as we emerged from the first dive, the storm had quickly moved to within 3 miles of the boat. We had a short discussion about lightening and the effect at 27- 30 ft, the Captain saying we would be fine. The danger would be anyone on the boat and coming up in a storm. The 2nd dive was called. I wish the dive experience had been better for us. We returned to the marina, gathered our equipment, and stored it before the storm caught us. Carol was to dive that afternoon on the Aristokrat, that dive trip was cancelled due to the weather. The group still managed to meet up with Carol for lunch at Sharkeys. We joked that we could dive the parking lot because of the deluge.





Interesting Dive Articles:

<https://gue.com/blog/first-helium-based-mixed-gas-dives/>

<https://abcnews4.com/boy-8-finds-huge-shark-tooth-fossil-while-on-sc-vacation>

<https://www.sharkdiver.com/sport-diver-magazine-shark-diving-with-sharkdiver-com/>

Dive Club Members attending the September meeting:

Sharon and Rich Green, Carol Hughes, Art LaRue, Kathy Lawler, Billy Schofield, Major Nimock, Rick Reckert, Elmer Osborne, Ed Fite, Bobby Kanter, Willy Levine, Bernie Contreras, and Venessa Wood

October 5th, 2022 Meeting
Casa Amigos Mexican Bar & Grill

11112 San Jose Blvd.

(near Mandarin Ale House & I-295)

We will meet in the back room.

NASJAX SCUBA CLUB EXECUTIVE BOARD

President - Kathy Lawler

Vice President-vacant

Secretary - Carol Hughes

Treasurer - Venessa Wood

Web Master - Sharon Green

Safety Officer -vacant