

Central California Council of Diving Clubs, Inc.



Minutes of the May 30, 2018, meeting

Call to Order– at 8:32 PM without Jim Kaller, who joined at 8:45.
Also present were Carol Rose, Josh Russo, and Larry Ankuda.

Special Report on Purple Sea Urchin Removal–Josh Russo

Energy and enthusiasm ranked high at Ocean Cove for the first coordinated all-volunteer PSU gathering. An even 100 volunteer divers dove, some for just one of the days, plus significant shore support and kayakers. Due to rough seas, Ocean Cove's north side was worked both days. A compressor was on-site to fill scuba tanks. As the urchins were brought to shore, whole ones were crushed placed in 40 gallon containers for transport to be used as compost.

On Saturday seven 40 gallon containers of crushed urchins were collected. DFG estimated 36,000 urchins were removed.

On Sunday 800 gallons of uncrushed PSU were collected, which were then crushed to fill 4 more 40 gal containers. They weighed 2500 pounds. The number of PSU was estimated to be about 20,000.

In toto over 50,000 PSU (2200 gallons uncrushed) PSU were collected. They weighed 7,000 pounds.

A raffle was held when the collecting was over, with 200-250 people attending it. It raised \$13,600, which will be put toward more commercial effort. The work performed both volunteer days was the equivalent of 14 commercial dive days. The money raised will fund another 14 commercial dive days.

100% of the raffle attendees said they would repeat this effort every-other month, alternating between Sonoma and Mendocino Counties. So the next all-volunteer PSU collection will be held July 21-22 at Albion/Schooner Landing.

Reef Check surveyed Ocean Cove the week before this PSU effort and estimated 80 urchins/square meter. They will take another survey soon in that area. It will be interesting to see how fast the PSUs move into the cleared area.

\$120,000 total has been raised by SCAN and the Watermans Alliance in the last six months.

DFW has shown both support and hesitancy toward these efforts. Their statistician Dr. Laura Rogers Bennett attended and helped provide above estimates. Dr. Cynthia Catton, with zoology and biological oceanography specialties, currently based at Bodega Bay, has been very helpful regarding these PSU efforts and is seeking grants to support more. Josh is still talking to Dr. Craig Shuman regarding a Scientific Collection Permit for further collecting. In April, DFW did increase the sport diver limit from 35 PSUs to 20 gallons of PSUs.

Membership—Carol

CenCal now has 98 paid members since 31 memberships were received from NorCal Divers.

Financial Report—Carol

Larry transferred \$62.21 from PayPal to our Chase checking account on 5/28. The general fund has about \$6000 but \$2000 is slated for insurance and \$1000 for our scholarship.

Website—Larry

Network Solutions is the new hosting company for our website as of May 17. This is also where our domain name resides. The previous host had doubled the hosting fees to about \$189/year; Network Solutions costs \$119.50/year.

Scholarship—Jim

One application was received. Carol tends the P.O. Box and did mail a copy to Jim, but his address changed a few months ago and he hasn't received it. Carol will resend a copy to Jim tomorrow.

UW Hockey—Carol

Atlantic Coast Championships were April 13-15, 2018 in Quebec.

2018 U/W Hockey Nationals will be June 8-10 in Denver.

The World meet are will be in Quebec City in July, between the 17th and the 28th. Teams are formed: Elite Men/Women, Masters Men/Women (over age 35).

Pacific Coast Championship meet will be hosted by LA in either Santa Clarita, CA, or Las Vegas, NV.

The Old-Timers (Alzheimers?) tournament date has changed to Oct. 13-14, but is still in Denver. It is a biennial fun event to raise funds for the 2019 Age World Championships. Teams are under 19 and/or under 23 men and women. CenCal will likely send U19 men/women. Juniors may now be in the under 19 and under 23 age brackets.

Photography—Jim

The Monterey Shootout will be August 9-11. Berkeley White and Backscatter has taken over most of the hosting from NCUPS and will advertise this event soon. The Shootout had over 100 entries last year. Due to increased interest, there may be some seminars added on Thursday. Carol needs to know the specific entities to be insured; she believes

Backscatter and the Monterey Peninsula College School of International Studies are two of them, but needs the complete list.

UW Fin Swimming--Carol

A World meet will be in Serbia this summer. USOA may have 2 or 3 swimmers participating. Florida and Massachusetts are the most active areas now.

UW Rugby—Carol

The Junior (under 21) World Championships will be in Germany, November 14-18. It will be a four day tournament. The USOA will be sending 2 teams.

Skin Spearfishing—Brandi

2018 Freshwaters National Meet will be hosted by RMSA on June 8-9 in Lake Powell. This tournament is a qualifier for Freshwater Worlds to be held at Lake Taupo, New Zealand, on March 9-10, 2019. Ann Doherty and Brandi Easter will be diving in both, representing RMSA.

The 2018 national meet will be in St. Petersburg, FL, on June 27-28. It will be a two day meet. It is unknown who from CenCal will be attending.

The World Meet will be in Portugal September 6-10. The U.S. team is Joe Fernandez, Captain, and divers Ryan Myers (FL), Paul Young (CenCal), Kelston McGuire (CO), and Justin Lee (HI). Coaches are Cameron Kirkconnell, Dr. Erick Salado, and Mike McGuire. You may support them by buying T-shirts, available online at teamusaspearfishing.bigcartel.com.

GLACD has proposed to host the 2019 National Meet on Catalina Island. Their plan is to have a boat-based meet out of Catalina Harbor.. This presents lodging and transportation problems and has yet to be approved by Director Dennis Haussler, who is polling the councils.

The bank balance in the Spear account as of today is \$15,436.20. The \$1000 deposit to USOA for the 2017 National meet has not yet been received. Vanessa or Alex need to provide final documents to get the refund.

As of 1/1/2019 Brandi will cede this treasury position. SPEAROS: WHAT HAPPENS THEN?

Old Business

CA form 990 has been filed with IRS.

New Business

Activities to sponsor:—Larry noted that it would be nice to have more members participate in order to promote various causes dear to divers. For example, in the latest “California Diving News” San Diego Council of Divers was sponsoring their annual Rocks, Rips and Reefs education program at 4 different locations this summer. How do we encourage participation?

Next meeting

Cen-Cal’s next meeting will be held Wednesday, July 25th and Larry will set it up.

Adjourn at 8:53 PM.