

Antelope Valley Desert Divers, Inc.



Ken Kurtis - His work with the Cornoer's Office

May 2010

General Meeting - Mon - May 10th

Ken Kurtis - His work with the  
Coroner's office

Board Meeting - Tue - May 25th

Meeting at the Nipper's house

Chamber Day - Wed - May 5th

Scuba Show - Sat, Sun - May 15-16th

A.V. Desert Divers

P.O. Box 1178  
Littlerock, Ca 93543



**SCUBA SHOW**

THE DIVING EVENT OF THE YEAR!

MAY 15 & 16  
**2010**

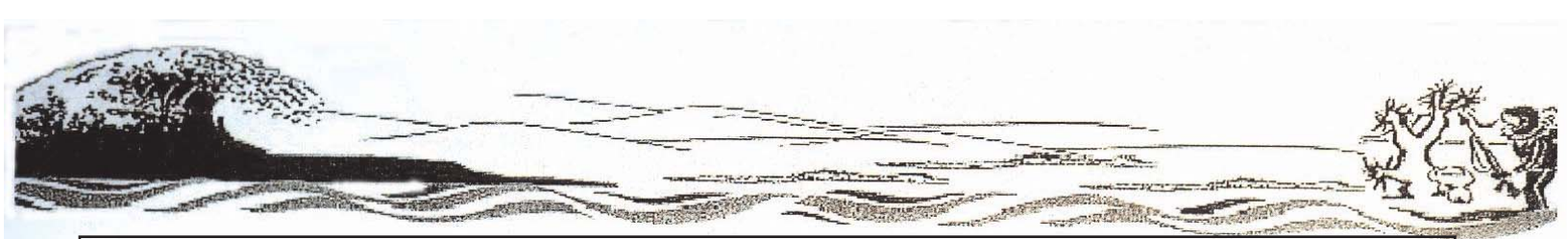
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**Blazing Color** at:

[www.avdesertdivers.org](http://www.avdesertdivers.org)



From the President...

This amazing weather is a great sign that it is time to get back into the water. Don and I spent the better part of the weekend, working the boat to get it ready for the summer. New canvas, new upholstery and a bit more work on the throttle and engines and we are good to go. Remember, if you have been wet in a little while, take up Palmdale Parks and Recreation (see Mike Orlando for details) and go to the pool and jump in. Check your buoyancy. After the winter often comes that dreaded pound or two and it may make a difference in a great dive and one where you are fighting to stay buoyant. And it never hurts to go back over your drills.

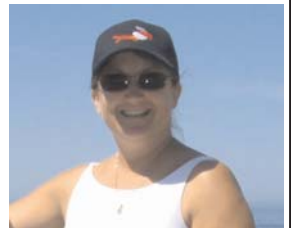
Larry Ladd has informed us that reservations for June Lake are now open. Get logged onto Reserve America or any of the others and book your spot for Oh Ridge Campground. It is always a great trip and much fun is had by all. Plan to bring the kids, grandkids and be ready to have a great weekend of bike riding, diving and just plain relaxing. We have many other events right around the corner. The Clam Chowder Dive and beach party and the July 4th Event will all be here before you know it.

Don't forget we are planning a early fall dive trip to a destination yet to be determined. We are looking at Mexico and a number of other venues. If you have a preference, please let a Board Member know. We are looking for something that looks like great fun and cost effective for everyone to come along.

*Look forward to seeing you at the next meeting,*

*Get Wet!!!!*

*Linda*

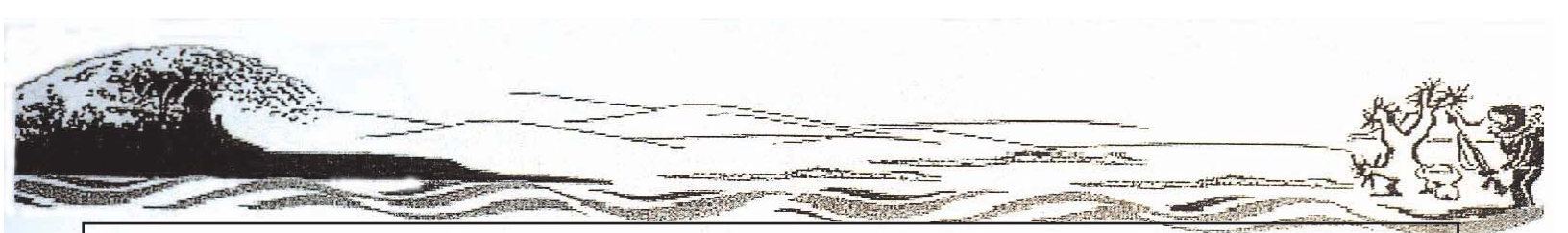


**CHAMBER DAY/EVE 2010**  
**Wednesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>**  
[www.chamberday.org](http://www.chamberday.org) / 310-652-4990

2010 AVDD Board of Directors

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(All # are 661 area code)



## KEN KURTIS

Ken got certified in 1978 as part of a radio station promotion to set a Guinness record for underwater broadcasting. He became a NAUI Instructor in 1980 and has taught thousands of people over the years. He's logged close to 5000 dives, still actively teaches everything from entry-level on up, and confesses his favorite class to teach is Fish Identification. Ken leads our foreign trips (Sea of Cortez, Yap, Palau, Bonaire, Midway Island, Fiji, Maldives, Papua New Guinea, Cayman, and the Bahamas are just a few of the stamps in his passport) as well as diving on most of our local charters. He's served as chairman of Chamber Day/Eve since the early 90s and has served since 2003 as a Forensic Consultant to the LA County Coroner for scuba fatalities. Ken's been a volunteer Diver/Team Leader at the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach since 1998, shoots photos and writes for local and national scuba publications, and is a familiar face to television viewers in Los Angeles. Ken's also hosted various TV shows, commercials, and infomercials (no, he can't get you a deal on the frying pan) that have run nationally and internationally. Ken claims to hold the Reef Seekers deep diving record of 3500' . . . but we have to add the caveat that he did it in the Alvin submersible for a PBS special so that might be cheating.

Ken's talk will go over his duties with the Coroner, explain some of the common problems that are seen, and give some useful information about how you can avoid being the next statistic.

### Book Report:

## We Wrap Our Sushi In It. What Is It?

We all know what Giant Kelp is. Some of us know the difference between Bull Kelp and Feather Boa Kelp, but do we know how to recognize Elk Kelp? How many of us know the details? We have all seen McMillan's Coralline Red Algae. If you think you haven't, then you haven't been diving in Southern California's waters. It surrounds us on our dives, but most don't even recognize it, pay attention to it, or realize how pervasive its presence is in our local waters.

How much do we really know about the seaweeds of the Pacific Coast?

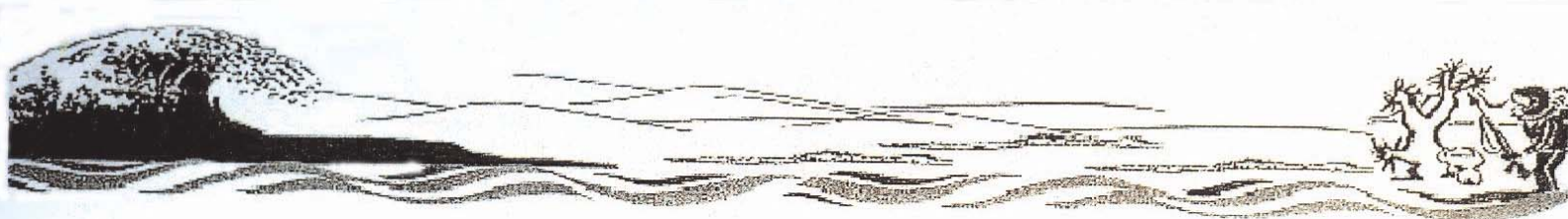
This wonderful book will teach you more about seaweed than you really need to know, but I guarantee that you will find it fascinating. From collecting seaweed for your kitchen while wading through the tidal pools of the intertidal region to scuba diving among the layers of Laminaria at 140 feet, you will find this book useful.

The editorial reviews say, "Created for those who work and play on the shores and in the shallow subtidal of the Pacific, this easy-to-use field guide is suitable for amateurs and professionals alike. Featuring a "quick key" and filled with interesting details, this comprehensive book will enable you to readily identify 128 species of marine algae commonly found along the coast from Alaska to Baja California.. Each species is accompanied by at least one color photograph, and text that covers identifying characteristics, range, and habit. It contains 138 color photographs, 14 line drawings that illustrate algal structures and life cycles, 3 easy-to-use keys to help sort and identify specimens and 9 recipes for cooking with seaweed."

It is available from the publisher at <http://www.seachallengers.com> for \$21.95 or from other booksellers on line and in bookstores. Shop around. You might get free shipping.

*Scuba Jack*





## RISING TIDES Brian and Claudia

Club Members Brian Basura and Claudia Richardson, aboard their sailing vessel Skylight, are well underway in the Pacific. They left the Southern most tip of Baja on our about the 14th of April. As of the 24th they had logged 1000 nautical miles towards their destination, Hiva Oa in the Marquesas. They seem to be doing fine with very light to moderate winds, rolling seas and some light squalls. They report seeing sea turtles, a LOT of flying fish, booby birds and dolphins. (It seems that Skylight scares the flying fish up out of the water. The booby birds are following them in order to eat the flying fish. The birds are even trying to roost on the mast, which was kinda cute until Brian and Claudia saw how much poop a booby bird could produce.) They are in contact with other boats via ham radio and feel secure knowing assistance is within 200 nm.

If you would like to follow along on their voyage you can log onto [winlink.org](http://winlink.org), click the user positions, and they are KG6CVO. Click on their voyage and trace back the bubbles. Claudia writes interesting blurbs about each position reported.



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