



AVDD Annual Banquet is on March 4th

A.V. Desert Divers

38713 Tierra Subida #200-227

Palmdale Ca 93551

February - 2023

General Meeting - Mon - Feb 13th

Things Divers can do to protect the Oceans

Board Meeting - Wed - Jan 18th

Lancaster Location

Beach Dive - Sat - Feb 25st

Catalina Cleanup

AVDD Banquet - Sat - Mar 4th

Get your tickets now



Catalina Cleanup is Feb 25th





From the President

Hello AVDD! I want to thank you for making last month's meeting one of the best ones that I can remember. We had a lot of good ideas and what I loved most was how everyone hung out after the meeting and talked to each other. It has been a while since we saw that.

From our last board meeting we took your ideas and are working on them. Granted we do not have the people to go after every idea but broke them down into phases and will work on implementing many of them. If you made a suggestion and would like to help implement it, please let us know! (Or - if you weren't at the meeting but would like to offer a suggestion or help with implementation).

Shortly you will see an updated AVDD website that will have a tab for those looking for Scuba certification. We also want to get a little history page about our challenge coin and who has been presented with one.

Our banquet is fast approaching, and we will have Ken Kurtis as master of ceremony for our event. Tickets will be available on our website, and we are changing the location but leaving the ticket price of \$35 the same. Remember you only have a couple days left to get that T-shirt design in for our contest. Winning design to be announced at the banquet!

Until next month, the weather is improving so let's go diving!

Jeff



Beach Dive for February

The beach dive for February will be the Catalina Island Cleanup

February 25th

AVDD Board of Directors 2022-2023

President	Jeff Carlon
Vice President	Lauren Bociaga
Treasurer	Robert Wisdom
Secretary	Shawna Ricker
Program Coordinator	Liliana Elenez
Conservation Officer	Adam Parra
Newsletter Editor	Terry Hodgkins
Member at Large	Mike Bociaga
Dive Coordinator	Ken White
Corporate Secretary	Barb White
Quartermaster	Lee Siffleet

To contact any of the board members E-mail
(avdesertdive@gmail.com)



February Guest Speaker



Devina is an original California diver that is currently located in the state of Washington. She is involved with a Non-profit organization Global Underwater Explorers. GUE conservation pledge addresses a major global crisis. “GUE recognizes the degradation of our world as a crisis of epic proportions requiring immediate action, both at our organizational level, as well as from each individual.

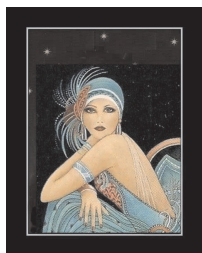
As divers, we have a unique perspective, and with that comes the responsibility to use our skills and voices to protect the places we love to dive. To that end, we have outlined the specific actions we are currently taking as well as those we pledge to take tomorrow and in the future to save the planet, especially our underwater ecosystems.” Donating to Sea Grass Grow to offset the carbon footprint of HQ operations and GUE.com order shipments.

- Encouraging our members, students, and divers to donate to Sea Grass Grow to offset their carbon footprint from dive travel.
- Using sustainable shipping materials, including recycled and multi-use mailers, cardboard, paper fill, recycled and kraft tape, and recycled labels with curbside-recyclable backing. When used, plastic air pockets or bubble wrap are reused and recycled from other sources, but never purchased.
- Using recycled paper for office printing and purchasing eco-friendly office supplies when replenishing or replacing worn out items.
- As of July 2021, printing all physical certification cards on bioPVC (biodegradable PVC) stock that is 99% PVC and fully biodegrades within nine months to five years of continual exposure to microorganisms in a fertile environment (e.g., soil, compost, trash dump, water, etc.).
- Providing divers with digital versions of active (non-expired) certifications, reducing the need for replacements of misplaced certification cards.
- Utilizing an e-signature platform for student profile forms, eliminating the need for printed and signed forms when students start a class.”





AVDD Installation Banquet



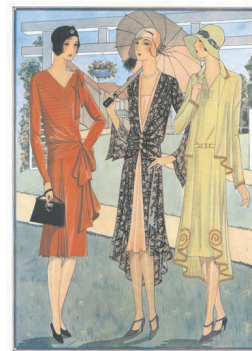
It's time to PARTY! Our annual AVDD Installation Banquet will be held at the Antelope Valley Country Club on Saturday, March 4th. We are stepping out in style this year so if you want a reason to get dressed up, say ...1920's style, though not required, here it is!

We will be holding a photo contest once again, but the photos will be judged by you, the club members, at the banquet. Dive related photos must be submitted digitally by February 13th to barbiezken@sbcglobal.net and will be printed and matted for display at the banquet. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place awards will be given.

The festivities will begin at 6:00pm when we will mix and mingle, take photographs on the Titanic with friends, get entered into the door prize raffle, view and vote for the submitted photos-all while having a little "Liquid Refreshment" from the cash bar.

You will also want to purchase your raffle tickets and drop them into the appropriate receptacles for fabulous prizes.

Dinner will be served at 7:00 pm and is being catered by The Lemon Leaf. Tickets are \$35 per person and can be purchased on our website, avdesertdivers.org



Get your tickets now and let's all have a "roaring" good time!



SAVE THE DATE!!

As you all know, AVDD is an avid supporter of the Catalina Hyperbaric Chamber. This year is no exception. This year's Chamber Day / Evening activities will be held on 5/3/2023. We will have more details after March 1st regarding Chamber Day and Evening.

Stay tuned!

Robert Wisdom Treasurer AVDD.



Conservation Officer Report

Join us on Saturday, February 25th 2023 at 7am for the 41st annual “Avalon Harbor Underwater Clean Up”. The Antelope Valley Desert Divers will be participating in this as a team!

If you would like to join us. Sign up on the Catalina Divers Supply website at <https://www.catalinadiverssupply.com/avalon-harbor-underwater-cleanup>

Early Registration is \$45, Non Diver registration is \$30. For this fee, you get the opportunity to dive in the harbor, a raffle ticket, an event t-shirt, and one free air fill from Catalina Divers Supply. When you sign up, choose “Antelope Valley Desert Divers” for the team, and select “Step Beach” for the dive location.

At the conclusion of the dive there are several raffle prizes given away, along with awards for trash categories such as “most interesting finds.” I will be there the day before diving if anyone else would like to join me. Last year the event hosted more than 550 divers, and collected 1.69 tons of trash! Proceeds benefit the USC Hyperbaric Chamber, the Avalon Rotary Club Foundation and Avalon Beautiful's Casino Dive Park improvement project. Looking forward to seeing you all there!

Adam Parra - Conservation Officer



A vibrant underwater photograph of a coral reef. The scene is filled with various types of coral, including branching and table corals, in shades of yellow, orange, and green. The water is clear and blue, with sunlight filtering down from the surface. A large, semi-transparent teal circle is overlaid on the center of the image, containing text and a list of benefits.

AVDD

Do you know your benefits of being a member of the Antelope Valley Desert Divers?

- Reduced price on monthly boat dives
- Club trips throughout the year
- Underwater Pumpkin Carving Contest
- Free air fills
- Annual Visual inspections on your scuba tanks
- Reduced price on hydrostatic testing of your tanks
- Continuing education certifications like High Altitude Diver training
- First-aid and CPR training
- Discounted pricing on equipment
- Refresher training
- Cool swag!!