



Desert Waves

In this edition...

- 2024 Board Position Nominations
- Message from the President
- Remembering Bill Neil
- December Dive Outing
- January Dive
- Avalon Harbor Underwater Clean Up
- Annual Potluck & White Elephant Gift Exchange
- Important Dates



AVDD Board of Directors '23-'24

President **Jeff Carlon**

Vice President Lauren Bociaga

Treasurer Robert Wisdom

Secretary Shawn Ricker

Program Coordinator Liliana Elenez

Conservation Officer Adam Parra

Sergeant at Arms Scott Gerstl

Newsletter Editor Terry Hodgkins

Member at Large Mike Bociaga

Dive Coordinator Ken White

Corporate Secretary Barb White

Quartermaster Lee Siffleet



WE ARE ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN JOINING THE
2024 BOARD OR WANT TO NOMINATE
SOMEONE WHO WOULD BE A GREAT
FIT?

EMAIL US

AVDesertDive@gmail.com



Voted Board Positions:

President

Vice President

Treasurer

Secretary

Program Coordinator

Conservation Officer

Newsletter Editor

Appointed Board Positions:

Member At Large

Dive Coordinator

Corporate Secretary

Quartermaster

Social Media Coordinator

Message from the **PRESIDENT...**



Hello,

As we step into the holiday season, my heart is filled with gratitude and warm wishes for each one of you. May the festivities of Thanksgiving, Hanukkah, Christmas, and Kwanzaa bring joy, love, and a sense of togetherness or I can just say "Happy Holidays."

It is with a heavy heart that I share the news of Bill Neil's passing earlier this month. Bill, a friend and long-time member, left a void in our club without his smile and stories - especially during our fireworks booth. Bill was one of the first faces my family and I encountered nearly a decade ago. His warm welcome instantly made us feel a part of this incredible club. Bill, you will be dearly missed.

As we navigate the emotions that come with such news, let's also look ahead to the upcoming events. Our Christmas party is just around the corner—have you picked out a gift yet? This year, I regret (good or bad) to inform you that I did not make a clock this year.

Save the date for March 9th—the Installation Banquet promises to be a special occasion, your board is already hard at work making sure of it.

Our commitment to community service continues with the next Tidy up a Mile event scheduled for January 13th. Your presence and efforts contribute significantly to the positive impact we make. As tradition has it, we will enjoy breakfast at Crazy Ottos.

I'm looking forward to the Christmas party and hope to see each of you there. May this season bring you moments of warmth, joy, and shared memories.

Merry Christmas to the best damn Dive Club.

Jeff Carlon
President, AVDD



BILL NEIL

May 11th, 1950 - November 6th, 2023

DECEMBER 2ND DIVE OUTING

- ○ **SUN DIVER** ✦
- ○ **Spots are available! \$140 per diver.** If you are interested in joining,
- ○ please contact Ken using our general email below.



BE PREPARED!

- ○ • Arrive at 7am to:
 - ○ ○ 182 N Marina Dr, Long Beach, CA.
- ○ • 3 tanks included.
- ○ • Lunch included. ✦
- ○ • **If you are diving for lobster, do not forget your license and gauge!**

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at AVDesertDive@gmail.com.

For more information on the Sun Diver accommodations, please visit www.SunDiverInternational.com

January Dive



REWIND AND REPEAT

*Sundiver
Express*

Many dive boats will be down in January for maintenance. We will be returning to the Sundiver Express January 13th. Email us with your interest at AVDesertDive@gmail.com.

February 2024 Dive

AVALON HARBOR UNDERWATER CLEAN UP



February's dive will be the annual Avalon Harbor Underwater Clean Up on February 24th, 2024. Please sign up directly at www.AvalonHarborCleanUp.org. When signing up, select Antelope Valley Desert Divers as your club. Select Step Beach as the Dive Location.



Room Accommodations

AVDD is currently working with Hotel Catalina to put together a group rate. **Please email AVDD if you are interested in accommodations so we can establish a final rate.**

AVDesertDive@gmail.com

Antelope Valley Desert Divers will be hosting our

ANNUAL WHITE ELEPHANT & POTLUCK



Let's Get Together!

**JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL WHITE ELEPHANT
GIFT EXCHANGE AND POTLUCK ON DECEMBER
17TH AT 5PM AT THE BOCIAGA HOME IN ACTON,
CA.**

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE
WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT EXCHANGE PLEASE
BRING A GIFT WITH A VALUE OF \$25 AND
OCEAN THEMED!**

**POTLUCK SIGN UP, AS WELL AS THE ADDRESS
WERE EMAILED ON 11/16. PLEASE EMAIL US IF
YOU NEED THE INFORMATION TO BE RESENT.**

Date

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER
17TH**

Time

BEGINS AT 5PM

Address:

**MIKE & LAUREN
BOCIAGA'S HOME IN
ACTON, CA.**

**ADDRESS AND
POTLUCK SIGN UP
WERE EMAILED ON
11/16**



Important Dates

December 2nd - December Dive Outing (Sundiver Express)

December 17th - @5pm Potluck and White Elephant Exchange

January 13th - January Dive (Sundiver Express)

January 13th - @8am TIDE-Y Up a Mile

February 24th - Avalon Harbor Underwater Clean Up

March 9th - Installation Banquet