



August- 2020

Virtual Meeting - Mon -Aug 10th

Marty Snyderman- Underwater Photographing

Board Meeting - Thur - Aug 20th

Virtual Meeting

Boat Dive - Sat - Aug 8th

Santa Cruz Island - Canceled

June Lake Cleanup - Sept 4,5,6th

High Altitude Diving & Cleanup



Fireworks Booth was a record setting year for the club. Thanks to all that helped!

A.V. Desert Divers

38713 Tierra Subida #200-227

Palmdale Ca 93551



June Lake Clean-up Sept 4,5,6th





President's message for August

I think it is safe to say that our fireworks booth this year was, as predicted, a huge success. Just how huge you ask? Well you will need to tune in to the August General Meeting to find out (unfortunately it is looking to be a zoom meeting again). I will say that everyone who showed up to help this year definitely contributed to this year's success. You all showed up to support the club and I am very proud of the hard work we all put into it. Good job all!

On the WAVES Project side, have you been able to catch the show Rock the Park on NBC? They aired a clip of WAVES out at Lake Mead working with the National Park Service. I will attach a link for that segment. Steve Rubin came up this last Monday and joined me for a meeting with Palmdale Parks and Rec. It was a very productive meeting and they are looking forward to having us get back to training our local vets soon. As it stands now, we are looking to put the next class though at the mid-September time frame and thanks to some donations we are starting to build up a cache of rental equipment that will assist us to outfit our students. At the August General Meeting I will have a small clip to show at the beginning of the meeting that helps demonstrate the importance of this program on our Veterans who have gone through it. <https://www.facebook.com/RocktheParkABC/videos/233442054628251>

June Lake is our next big outing and as it stands now, we are still a go. With that being said, we will be offering the High-Altitude Certification again. Check out the flyer in this newsletter for more info.

We also have our fingers crossed that we will still be able to do our annual Catalina AVDD club trip on the 7th and 8th of November. That reminds me... I need to make reservations. If you have not gone in the past, I encourage you to join us. We all stay up at the Sea Port Village hotel, who take great care of us.

Please take a moment and see the note from my wife regarding old club shirts. I do not want to ruin the surprise, but what she wants to do with them is pretty cool. I look forward to how it will turn out.

The last thing I will add with a heavy heart. Our Vice President Annette and our Conservation Officer Don have let us know that this will be their last year on the Board. These two positions are vital to how we have grown as a club and more than the positions, I am personally losing great teammates. We do have people that have already expressed interest in stepping into these roles and both Annette and Don have agreed to have people shadow them for the rest of the year to learn more of what they do. If you have an interest, and are thinking about joining the team, please contact me or someone else on the board and we will get you into the mix.



That is it for this month's message. I hope you are all doing well with all the uncertainty we are facing day to day. Please continue to take care of yourselves and never be hopeless. If you ever need to talk, I am always available. Take care and know that it is only with your dive family that we can still be "Nifty diving at Fifty."

AVDD Board of Directors 2020-2021

President	Jeff Carlon
Vice President	Annette Childree
Treasurer	Robert Wisdom
Secretary	Shawna Ricker
Program Coordinator	Liliana Elenez
Conservation Officer	Don Nipper
Newsletter Editor	Terry Hodgkins
Member at Large	Mike Bociaga
Dive Coordinator	Ken White
Corporate Secretary	Kim Hill
Sergeant at Arms	Patrick Hill
Quartermaster	Lee Siffleet

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

T-shirts are Needed

Tina Carlon would like to have any of your old AVDD related T-shirts, even if they are stained, faded or ripped!

She will be cutting them up and making something out of them?

...so only give them up if you are done with them!

Thank you very much!





Marty Snyderman - Underwater Photographer

August Guest speaker Marty Snyderman, a Scuba diver that has been conserving and sharing the magic of the undersea world for over four decades.

In my presentation I will share still photographs, a video clip or two, and some mostly factual stories behind some of the imagery. I have worked in the diving world as a filmmaker, still photographer, author, photography instructor, and speaker for more than four decades. My career has taken me to a lot of diving destinations where I have been able to work with a wide variety of animals as I sought to capture their images and behaviors with my cameras. The presentation includes a mix of big animals, small animals, and behaviors. I am happy to take questions as I go along or to take any that people might have at the end of my presentation.

I will also share information about my latest endeavor, helping others learn and improve their underwater photography with one-on-one classes with me. The classes are taught online with flexible scheduling to accommodate the student's schedule using Zoom software.

I look forward to Zooming with you soon!

Marty

Club Members, we have a unique opportunity to be taught by one of the best photographers in the industry. Marty Snyderman is offering one-on-one instruction on how to make you a better underwater photographer. With flexible scheduling, Marty's classes are customized to meet your individual goals. If you would like to learn more about talking a class or series of classes with Marty, click on the link below or look him up at Martysnyderman.com.

Marty has been teaching underwater photography in person and offering instruction as a magazine columnist for more than four decades, and he takes a lot of pride in his ability to teach others. The classes are about helping you improve your skills. The classes are not about him or his photography. They are about showing you concepts and techniques that will help you improve your photography no matter what make or model of camera or camera system you use.

Marty is the Marine Life Editor and photography columnist for Dive Training magazine, and he is the Senior Editor of California Diving News. His still photography has been used by the National Geographic Society, Nature Conservancy, National Wildlife Federation, Sport Diver, Diver, Ranger Rick, Smithsonian, Ocean Realm, Discovery books, Discover Diving magazine, Scuba Times magazine, and Skin Diver magazine, where he served as the photography columnist for all three diving magazines, and many major publications, natural history museums, and aquaria including the Monterey Bay, Shedd, National, Seattle, and Miami aquaria. Marty has worked with Nikon Inc. teaching courses at destinations around the world and authored a camera course for Sea&Sea US.

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Conservation Officer's Report for August

I hope you all are doing well. 120 + days into the Rona lockdown and I'm starting to feel like a hostage. It's not that I'm not taking this pandemic seriously, I'm just getting tired. I miss sitting down in a restaurant. I miss my movie theatre popcorn. I miss a nice cold beer in the brew house. I miss seeing all of you F2F. But most of all, I HATE wearing a mask!!!!

I know, I'm not wearing this mask for me, I'm wearing it for you. I am just tired.

We haven't done much this year for conservation; we've had to cancel our July beach cleanup out of caution. So far it looks like we'll be able to do our annual June Lake clean up over Labor Day weekend. That's great news! I hope all of you that plan on attending have already gotten a camping spot.

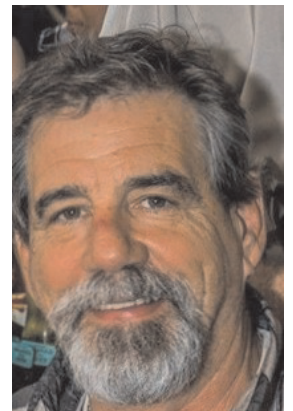
Our next big conservation effort is in September. Coastal Cleanup Day 2020 is going to look a lot different this year. The COVID-19 pandemic has caused the California Coastal Commission to switch things up a lot. In the old world (pre-COVID) Coastal Cleanup Day is held on the third Saturday of September.

Adapting to our current circumstances while honoring the spirit of the cleanup, the California Coastal Commission has declared the entire month of September as Coastal Cleanup Month. So, every Saturday from 9 AM to Noon in September volunteers are encouraged to grab your bags and gloves (and mask) and cleanup. Primarily for coastal communities where trash in the streets goes into storm drains and eventually into the ocean; we as a local dive club can take this opportunity to "show the flag", as it were, here locally. We will show the AVDD dive flag and the spirit of divers who love our oceans and deserts. If you have a suggestion on a clean-up area please send me a note. There will be more on this in the September newsletter.

I hope those of you that attend June Lake have a great time.
Dive safe, be safe, get wet!

Don Nipper

AVDD Conservation Officer





Club Membership - Friendly Reminder

Ok everybody, this is just a friendly reminder that club memberships expire July 31, 2020.

Remember renewing members only have to fill out a new AVDD liability form (front and back). On the club website, pick what type of membership you want (single or family), then you will have 2 options (New or Renew). Once your payment has been received you will receive a new liability form. You can either electronically sign or print and fill out the form and bring it to the August meeting (if we have an in-person meeting) or you can mail it to the address listed below.

Paying your membership can also be done either on line or in person. Single memberships are \$25 and family memberships are \$40. If you worked the correct number of shifts at the fireworks booth for free membership, I have already notified you by email that your membership is free for the 20-21 membership year.

All memberships must be renewed/current by September 30, 2020. Remember your membership must be in good standing in order to participate in any club activities and/or receive club discounts and or benefits and you must have a new AVDD liability form signed and on file in order to get your free air fills (scuba tanks must have current viz. and hydro's) If you have any questions, feel free to email me.

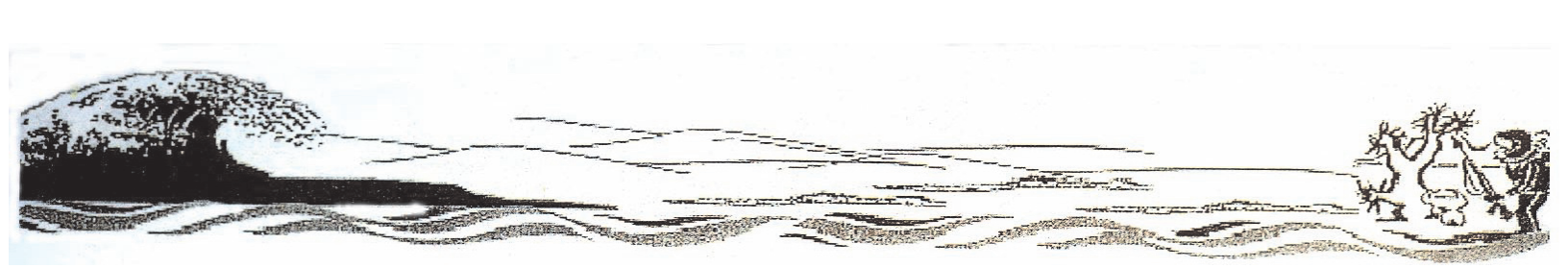
**Antelope Valley Desert Divers 38713 Tierra Subida
#200-227**

Palmdale, CA 93551

Annette Childree

AVDD VP, "lil gnome"





Historic Underwater Discovery made by a friend of AVDD!

Australian Grant Treloar, whom some AVDD club members met in Fiji in 2017 while on a PCH dive trip, made a historic discovery in his hometown Darwin Harbor!

The USS Peary was sunk in Darwin Harbor in 1942 when the Japanese bombed the little town to keep it from being used by the allies as a strategic port during the war. It is believed 88 servicemen died on the ship, leaving 54 survivors.

The divers found two 3-meter bronze propellers and drive shafts “some kilometers” from where the ship came to rest, on the bed of Darwin Harbor. Grant and a few of his fellow Darwin Sub Aqua Club members made the historic discovery in May - and its significance is just now starting to become known as scholars and historians have been studying it.

It was previously believed that the USS Peary started steaming out of the harbor when the attack was underway, on February 19, 1942. Some people thought the Peary had some semblance of control, but this new discovery shows they were actually more like a sitting duck. Thanks to Grant’s find, historians now believe the ship's stern was disabled on the first Japanese strike, leaving the Peary vulnerable to a further four attacks. This discovery was testament to the bravery of the sailors, who would have known their fate was sealed.

Grant and his Darwin Sub Aqua Club (the Darwin equivalent of AVDD) buddies were searching for stricken seaplane Corinthian, downed a month after the bombing, when they made their discovery. The location of the propellers on the seabed is a secret, and all artifacts from the ship are protected by commonwealth legislation, citing a \$63,000 fine and a five-year prison sentence.

We hope to have Grant at a future AVDD meeting to discuss this exciting find!