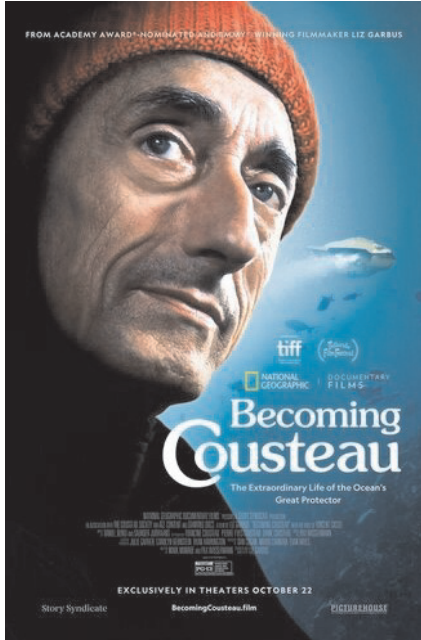


Antelope Valley Desert Divers, Inc.



December - 2021

Holiday meeting - Mon - Dec 13th

Potluck Dinner & Yankee Swap

Board Meeting - Thur - Dec 23rd

Lancaster Location

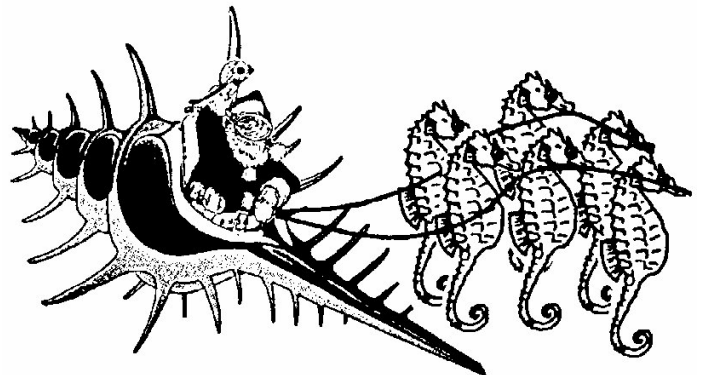
Boat Dive - Sat - Dec 4th

Club dive on the Spectre

A.V. Desert Divers

38713 Tierra Subida #200-227

Palmdale Ca 93551



Potluck Dinner & Yankee Swap

Dec 13th



• **December 2021 President's Message**

Well Fellow Divers, we made it through 2021!

What a year we've had! Even though the pandemic continued to affect our everyday lives, we still were able to hold some limited events. A group of us were able to attend the club's first sponsored international dive trip! Even though we had hoped to go to Little Cayman, We were not able to get there due to the pandemic. So, we made a last-minute change and booked a trip to Belize. And we had a great time! We held our Annual Clam Chowder Event in June. We were also able to hold our Underwater Pumpkin contest. And we finished up with our annual Fall Trip to Catalina.

So even though the pandemic was still front and center in all of our lives, we still were able to get things done.

I am looking forward to seeing you all at the Christmas Potluck on Monday the 13th of December. If you have not yet signed yet signed up for a side dish, please contact Shawna Ricker and let her know what you are bringing.

As you know, Monday's meeting will also be the time we elect our board members for another term. You have until the start of the meeting to make your nominations.

I am looking forward to 2022. We are already planning for our Installation Banquet in March 2022.

Keep your calendars open. It will be a great time!!

In closing, I want to wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Robert Wisdom, Interim President -Treasurer.

AVDD Board of Directors 2021-2022

President	Robert Wisdom
Treasurer	Robert Wisdom
Secretary	Shawna Ricker
Program Coordinator	Liliana Elenez
Conservation Officer	Open
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)





IT'S OFFICIAL: SHARKS MUDDLE HUMANS WITH SEALS

At Sydney's Taronga Zoo they obtained and compared video footage of seals and of humans swimming and paddling surfboards to predict what a juvenile shark sees when looking up from below.

"Until now, the potential similarity between humans and seals has been assessed based on human vision," said lead author Dr Laura Ryan of Australia's Macquarie University.

"However, white sharks have much lower visual acuity than us, meaning they cannot see fine details and lack colour vision. In these experiments, we were able to view the world through the eyes of a white shark."

The juveniles proved unable to discriminate between the humans and seals above them. Younger white sharks less than 2.5m in length are responsible for a large proportion of bites on humans – at the stage of life at which their jaws are hardening to allow them to incorporate seals into their diet.

"They need to develop a search image for these prey items and combine that with other sensory information; it's a learning process that could be prone to mistakes," said Macquarie's head of biological sciences Prof Nathan Hart.

Also involved in the study were the University of Exeter, La Trobe University, Oceans Research Institute, University of Western Australia, University of Bristol, Flinders University and New South Wales Department of Primary Industries.

"We confirm the plausibility of the mistaken identity theory from a visual perspective, but sharks can also detect prey using other sensory systems," pointed out Dr Ryan. "While it seems unlikely that every bite on a human by white sharks is a result of mistaken identity, in circumstances where surface objects like surfers are targeted from below, it is very possible."

Public uncertainty about the reason for shark attacks arouses concern that can lead to punitive shark-reduction measures, said Dr Ryan. "Greater understanding will hopefully lead to improved solutions that not only prevent shark-bites but also don't needlessly endanger other marine wildlife.

"In fact, the findings of this study have inspired the design of non-invasive vision-based shark mitigation devices, which are currently being tested."





Yankee Swap

It's the most wonderful time of the year, with that being said, it is time to dust off those Ugly sweaters and show them off at the Christmas celebration. Show us what you got after not being able to last year.

The Christmas Potluck party will be held in the same Room as our monthly meetings. The festivities start at 7pm but preparation/ set up will be an hour before.

Time to bust out your best dish, please bring the dish that you have signed up for.

There will be a Yankee Swap game taking place during the celebration that will require an Ocean related gift of \$20.

The Club provides plates, cups, utensils, coffee, clam chowder, chili, and Coffee.

See you December 11 @ 7pm ready to eat and play and see what you end up with.





WAVES Project

Hello AVDD, we have some good news on the WAVES Project.

First off, the first annual golf tournament held last month was a huge success and exceeded our expectations. This will go a long way in our mission to get our Vets in to the water and on their way to recovery through a healthy dose of vitamin "sea".

I also have good news for the Palmdale branch. We have secured a training date for our first class in over a year. That's right we will be back in the pool in February.

More good news, our fellow members and WAVES Project students Pat and Dave Turbide will also start their professional path on becoming SSI instructors. I can not tell you in words how happy I am for them.

Our affiliation with WAVES Project is only growing stronger and with all your continued support we are living up to our club's core values.

Thank you all so much and I look forward to seeing you all at the Christmas party next week

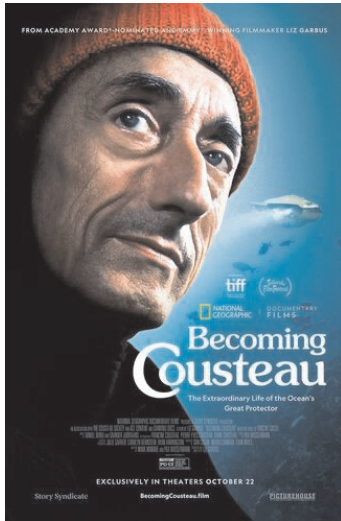
Jeff Carlon,

WAVES Project Liaison





National Geographic Documentary “Becoming Cousteau” Hits Theaters



The film pulls from an archive of newly-restored footage The New York Times calls “enthraling.”

Among Cousteau's many marine accomplishments — from his famed underwater documentary *The Silent World* to worldwide oceanic research aboard the iconic *Calypso* — the former French Naval Officer invented the first commercially-successful open-circuit, self-contained underwater breathing apparatus (SCUBA) system, the Aqua-Lung, in the early 1940s.

“In order to go deeper, in order to stay longer, I became an inventor by necessity,” Cousteau says in an archival recording in the film’s trailer.

“Adventurer, filmmaker, inventor, author, unlikely celebrity and conservationist: For over four decades, Jacques-Yves Cousteau and his explorations under the ocean became synonymous with a love of science and the natural world,” reads the film’s synopsis. “As he learned to protect the environment, he brought the whole world with him, sounding alarms more than 50 years ago about the warming seas and our planet’s vulnerability... [Becoming Cousteau] takes an inside look at Cousteau and his life, his iconic films and inventions, and the experiences that made him the 20th century’s most unique and renowned environmental voice — and the man who inspired generations to protect the Earth.”

