



**October - 2020**

**Virtual Meeting - Mon - Oct 12th**

The 4 C's of Lobstering - Terry Hodgkins

**Board Meeting - Thur - Oct 22th**

Virtual Meeting

**Boat Dive - Sat - Oct 10th**

Sundiver Express

**Fall Catalina Trip - Nov. 6-9th**

Diving Casino Point Park



**Terry Hodgkins**  
**'Lobstering 101'**

A.V. Desert Divers

38713 Tierra Subida #200-227

Palmdale Ca 93551



**June Lake Clean-up**  
**Great time was had by all!**





## Hello AVDD family.

As you may know, we have lost one of our own this last week, Mike Orlando. He was a corner stone of the club and to say he will be missed is a large understatement. Since being a part of the Board over the last few years, if we had a question and didn't have the answer, someone would always default to "I don't know, ask Mike" even with him gone I believe we will still say that.

One of Mike's favorite events was the Underwater Pumpkin Carving Contest. We wanted to honor him with this event this year, but with all the uncertainty of not knowing if we can hold the event this year. The board has voted to cancel it. This was a hard decision to make because we wanted to do it in Mikes name, but we as the Board have made a vow to make sure that next year's UWPC will be epic and something Mike would be proud of, or sit there and just shake his head giving us that half smile. LOL

I know Mike will be missed by us all, I also know that he would not want us to dwell in it. What would Mike say? "Are you done? Ok, then get your gear on and let's go diving." We are the Antelope Valley Desert Divers, what better way to honor one of our own then to get together in November at the club dive in Catalina and blow some bubbles in his honor.

I will close with a little bit of humor; hey guys guess what? This month I can now say the club isn't the only one "Who's nifty, still diving at 50" That's right, your President turned the big 5-0 in September.

So let's go diving already.

*Jeff Carlon*



### 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!





## October Speaker

Terry Hodgkins will be teaching the 4C,s of 'Lobstering'.

The four include Catching, Checking, Cleaning, & Cooking.

You will need a fishing license, Lobster report card & a measuring gauge. You will be required to measure your catch under water & release all shorts.

The Sundiver Express will be going out on Oct. 10th with a group of AVDD divers. So let's get ready to have some lobster for dinner.



*Your Lobster Man,*

*Terry Hodgkins*



## Under Water Pumpkin Carving Contest 2020

This year's UWPC was to have been dedicated to our past president Mike Orlando, whom we lost on September 14, 2020. Due to all the present craziness and the City of Palmdale not opening Dry Town or the pool for public use, your AVDD Board has made the difficult decision to cancel this event. Your AVDD Board also made the decision that next years UWPC will be AWESOME and make Mike very proud. So everyone start thinking know, tell a board member your ideas and help make next year's UWPC 2021 EPIC.



## 50th Anniversary T-Shirts & Hats

Hi Members, let me first say it's an honor to be part of the board members and for my first 'job' of writing an article.

I've come up with a cool T-shirt design for our 50th anniversary with the help of Courtney drawing the octopus, once the picture goes to the T-shirt graphic guy, he can adjust color and the featured 'angry face' as needed.

Also, it will have the WAVES emblem on the left sleeve and the front the traditional AVDD club emblem.

Now the hat, it is a light weight navy blue (I think that is the color), it has a nice wide brim for sun shade, neck, forehead and the nose :) and is UV 50+ protected, also has a built in sweat band.

Prices to come at a later date due to certain life happening circumstances.

*From the desert to as far as the ocean seen, lets dive somewhere in between,  
stay safe ya'll.*

*The Merman. AKA Lee.*



## Oct. 10th Boat Dive

will be on the Sundiver Express boarding is at 7am cost is \$125.00 includes 3 Tanks and Food,

If you plan on Lobstering purchase your Fishing License and Lobster card. This Trip is SOLD OUT

Upcoming Dive Catalina Island Weekend Trip on Nov. 6-9 Diving the Casino Point park

**Ken**





## AVDD Conservation Officer Report

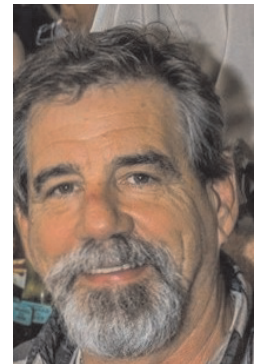
Hello Desert Divers!

I hope October finds you happy and Rona-free. I was very sorry to hear of the loss of Mike Orlando. Mike was a friend and a great supporter of AVDD. Through his direct efforts AVDD came back from near-death to a vibrant active club and supporter of the dive community. He was instrumental in AVDD sponsorship of the U/W Pumpkin Carving event. Like many club members, I also carry his name on many of my scuba certifications. He was a great Instructor and advocate of recreational scuba diving. I send my personal condolences to his family. He will be missed, I wish you Fair Winds and Following Seas.

Thank you to all who were able to participate in our June Lake Cleanup/High Altitude dive this year. A special thanks to the non-members that came out to dive with us from as far away as Las Vegas. By all accounts it was a total success; right up to the time they shut down the campgrounds and forced everyone to leave. The smoke from the Creek fire was terrible. While LA air quality was 90, the Mammoth and June Lake areas were 600. At times visibility was down to not much more than 100 feet. And breathing the smoke, well..... Anyway, everyone escaped and returned home safely. I look forward to going back next year, which I hope will be Rona-free.

Covid-19 threw us a curve ball this year that we just couldn't hit. Our annual participation in Coastal Cleanup Day was a bust. Our large scale beach cleanup was changed to smaller, localized events. It was hoped that the multitude of volunteers that normally participated in the single day event would take the ball and run with it. If you have pictures of a cleanup that you did, please forward them to me and I will submit them to Heal the Bay for publication. We did register our June Lake activities with Project Aware, and I will include that cleanup data as a contribution to Coastal Cleanup Month.

Hunters, California Spiny Lobster season opens this month! Are you ready? I hope you got your 19/20 report card in on time. If you didn't, expect to pay \$20 more for your 20/21 report card as a penalty. As always you'll need your CDFG fishing license with an ocean enhancement AND a lobster report card. Other required equipment include a gauge capable of accurately measuring your 3 1/4" catch. I suggest buying one and not depending on your fabrication skills to build one, Remember, the only gauge the Game Warden will believe is accurate is HIS. Don't get caught with a "short", it's not worth getting your gear confiscated. Most important of all... dive safe and CHECK YOUR AIR OFTEN, no bug is worth dying for.



### California Spiny Lobster season:

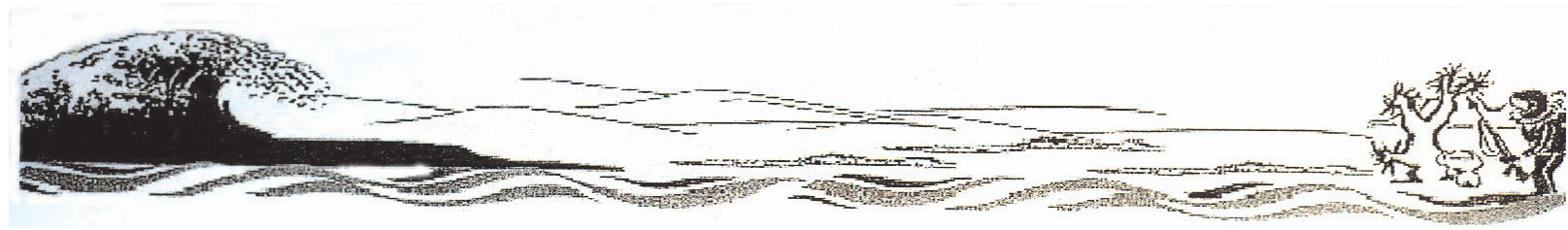
Saturday, 6:00am October 10th 2020 - Wednesday, 12:00pm (midnight) March 17th 2021

### Report cards Due: April 30th, 2021

*Happy hunting!*

*Don Nipper*

**AVDD Conservation Officer**



## **Mike Orlando**

It is with extreme sadness that I must formally announce the unexpected passing of my father Mike Orlando.

My father has been an amazing force in the scuba diving community for many years. His infectious love for this sport kept people engaged and excited about scuba diving.

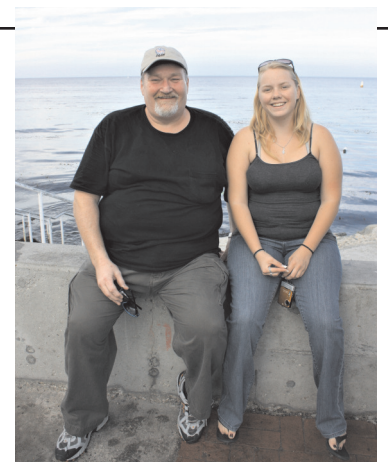
We have all had the privilege of enjoying the events that he has fought for such as the underwater pumpkin carving contest. He wanted so badly for all his students to love the sport as much as he did. I have been lucky enough to experience scuba diving with him.

He has held many board positions and has taught a class to most of the members at one point or another. I know most of you have heard some of his famous dive stories and I know that I never got tired of hearing them because his passion was infectious. I know scuba diving will not be the same for me without him.

We will be holding a memorial service for him on Saturday 11/21/20 which was going to be his 60th birthday party. Please reach out to me if you would like to attend and I will be more than happy to provide the details.

My sister and I want to celebrate his life so he knows he was not alone.

*Shauna Ricker*





## June Lake 2020!

To say that 2020 has been a challenge is a great understatement! There were moments when I did not even think we would get to go to June lake for our annual clean-up. Luckily, we were able to turn this into a great event this year! We had 11 divers on our official dive for the clean-up Saturday morning! We cleaned up just over 200lbs of trash from the beach. Some of us, who arrived a few days early, went to the local marinas on Thursday and Friday and cleaned up under the docks. We brought up over 100lbs of trash during those dives! We also were able to return some lost anchors and equipment to the local marinas.

We were able to have our potluck Saturday evening and had 30+ people participate in that event.

There are so many people I need to thank for making this event happen. First off, I want to thank Tina Carlon for securing all the raffle prizes this year. We had some great prizes! I also want to thank Annette Childree for being our Beach Master and checking everyone in and out of the water making sure everyone returned safe! I also need to thank Sam Childree and Lee Siffleet for going and picking up the boats from the marina. Also, thanks to Sam and Magnus Carlon for being our boat captains, and following around the divers and picking up the trash the divers sent up. There are so many more that I need to thank, but I just don't have the room in the article. Thank all of you that helped! I am looking forward to 2021 and putting 2020 in the rear-view mirror and hopefully getting back to some sort of normal.

**Take care my fellow divers & friends!**

*Robert Wisdom*

*Treasurer AVDD*

