



October 18, 2007

NEWSLETTER

Important note to all AIM members: The newsletter is now being done by Karen Kessel, and might take on several forms while all the bugs are being worked out. Please be patient with the layout!



FALL COLORS WEEKEND GATHERING

If you weren't able to attend **the September meeting**; here's what you missed;

- **Craig & Karen Kessel's** debut as moderators!

- AIM members **Tom & Kate Fuquay** have opened at new dive shop in Folsom called Fish Eye Scuba. Visit them online at <http://www.fisheyscuba.com/index.html>
- A Big THANK YOU goes out to **Knobby** for the Undercurrents 2007 Diver's Chapbooks.

Old Business:

- The suggestion was made to enhance our selection of photos on the AIM website which can be found at <http://www.sacaim.org/>. **Craig** repeated **Carol's** challenged to each AIM member to send at least 10 photos for posting to our webmaster, **Chuck Bormann**. His email address is csbormann@sbcglobal.net in case you haven't sent yours....
- **Fall Colors Tour** is this weekend. Watch for bears!

New Business:

- Newsletter Update: **Karen Kessel** has graciously volunteered to take over newsletter duties. This month, **Holly** and **Karen** will be working together. So send in those pictures and articles, folks!
- The AIM 2008 calendar is almost complete. Stay tuned for new rules for 2009. **Barbara "Babs" Leary** mentioned what a "Saint" **Sharon Bormann** has been for making our calendar a thing of beauty all these years.

Dates for your calendar:

- Pt. Lobos Dive November 3, 2007
- Salmon Snorkel, November 10, 2007
- AIM Christmas Party, December 8 at **Glen & Penni's**
- Weekend of January 19, 2008 – Ano Nuevo & San Simeon trip
- January AIM meeting will feature Tom Pendrik, sea urchin diver

Dive Reports:

American River Cleanup was September 15. AIM divers helped remove lots of interesting junk from the river.

Dolphin Diver's took a trip to Ocean Cove over Labor Day Weekend.

Seahorse Dive Club went to Lake Tahoe.

Holly presented her photos of her & **Cayle's** recent trip to Puerto Vallarta.

Article from Corinne (that's not my husband) Fuerst

This is the first year that Holger and I decided to join AIM on its annual “Fall Colors Photo Op”. After taking a wrong turn that costs us 30 minutes, Holger and I finally made it to Sorensen’s Resort where we met up with Joe, Carol (who had just flown in from Thailand), and Glen Marshall. When asked why we were late getting there, it was determined that it was because Holger and I were getting directions **from a “CPS”** – Corinne Positioning System, or “How to get lost no matter how good the map/directions are”. During breakfast at Sorensen’s Cayle & Holly, as well as Barbara L. and Ken joined our little group. Once breakfast was finished, we decided to carpool and go look for the “Fall Colors”. Unfortunately, we were probably a couple of weeks too early, and other than lots of yellow and brown, the true fall colors were not yet to be seen. We did have some great walks and hikes into Hope Valley. After stopping for lunch at around 1:30 or so, we started making the trek back to where we left some of the other vehicles. That is where we “lost” about ½ of the group because they decided to head back home and because they know just how rustic rustic is... something that us novices had no clue about!!

Not only is the cabin at Lilly Lake very rustic – typical A-frame cabin without room partitions or an enclosed bathroom area – but this year it had a special: NO running water... Thankfully some of us were smart enough and actually brought water (I was not one of those). The cabin does have a very nifty, non-smelly, self-composting outhouse with specific “How To” instructions and all.

So, not knowing what to expect, Holger and I had packed with the motto “More/Bulkier is Better” NOT! We were very unprepared for the 10-minute hike from the car to the cabin. Thankfully, the cabin does have access to a **canoe**, so Holger and I decided that the rest of everybody’s stuff was to be brought over by **canoe** (of course, AFTER we already carried our heavy cooler to the cabin on the 1st hike up to the cabin). Once everybody was “moved in”, Joe started a nice big fire, we had some appetizers on the back deck, and then it was time for dinner. Joe had pre-made a delicious beef stew which we served with some French bread, a green salad and a few bottles of red wine. After dinner, we all watched a few of the day’s pics and then **went** off to bed. Remember, there are no walls within the A-frame so here is how I would best describe my night at the cabin: thanks to Joe who stoked the fire every couple of hours, we got to hear the “squeak” of the little oven door open every couple of hours to add wood, that was immediately followed by a big red/blueish light into the room coming from the now newly stoked fire. All this mixed in with a snoring concerto made up of Joe, Ken, and Glen. I must say that Glen takes first prize in the snoring concert. Of course, the Fuerst family had to make some noise too (no, not that way☺) - Annie, our dog made sure that she was heard either tip toeing around the room or thumping, I mean scratching herself every other hour or so as well – on a wooden floor it was very obvious what she was doing when. Carrying Annie down the stairs in the morning while she squealed every step of the way was another reason to wake up the entire group.

The next morning, we started out by making a BIG pot of STRONG coffee. Barbara B. & Karen M. surprised us with their visit and brought ingredients to make yummy mimosas. After a fabu homemade breakfast, we all chipped in straightening out the cabin, carried everything out via canoe (we got smarter overnight) and decided that since the fall colors were not on schedule, that we would go look for the famous kokene salmon spawning run. This run was not on schedule either – I guess the fall colors and the salmon make their appearance simultaneously☺. All in all, it was a wonderful weekend. Next year, Holger and I will know better and pack light and compact. For those of you that have never made this AIM trip before, I highly recommend it providing that Joe and Carol still have access to the cabin next year.

Thanks again to Joe and Carol for opening their cabin to us, and to Joe for being our fearless leader/chef.

~ Corinne



Regular outhouse



Holger's outhouse →



The morning after.....

Pumpkins and Pizza Night at Carol's House: Last Saturday night, the 13th of October 7 ladies got together to have a pumpkin carving evening in Placerville. It started with a trip to the pumpkin patch at sunset which included some Olympic quality relays and aerobic exercises at the sun set in the west. Film can only show how fun this pumpkin hunt and prep time really was.... Then, with sharp and dull knives in hand the group gathered around the island in Carol's kitchen to share non-stop chatter chatter and babble babble as 7 simple pumpkins were transformed into 7 creative Jack-O-Lanterns. At the conclusion of the artistic activity gourmet pizza was enjoyed during fun videos from, and of course many of the group. The overnights enjoyed a midnight movie called The World's Fastest Indian...wonderful true storey which had nothing to do with pumpkins or diving and was...delightful!



**4 LADIES OF
A.I.M IN AN EVENING OF CUTTING UP....**





Ano Nuevo and Cambria Club Event January 18-21, 2008

Elephant Seals: mating, birthing and just being themselves...

Paparazzo and nature lovers line up for a beautiful skeptical of nature every year at this time.. Reservations for the orientation tour at the Ano Nuevo State Park will be made in mid November for 20 (+??)** members at 10am. After a brief orientation we will take the walking tour to the beach. Gentle walk on well marked yet sometimes slippery trails. Lunch will follow in the park between 12 and 2pm. Those interested in going further south we will caravan down the coast, Hwy 1, to Cambria. The Sacramento Group will be joined by a group from Monterey, MPUP, who are going to the Cambria area only. Great time to mix with other photo and nature enthusiasts.

Arrangements for camping or hotels will be confirmed at the November meeting...mark dates on your calendars now.... Some will be camping/hoteling it Friday, Saturday and possibly Sunday. Options to tour Hearst Castle can be arranged. Some website references (there are many) :

www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=1115 ; www.cambriachamber.org/elephant-seals.php ;
www.elephantseal.org ; <http://gocalifornia.about.com/cs/nationalparksca/a/anonuevo.htm>

Taken along the observatory path and beach near Cambria. Easy observation walkway has been constructed and there will be an opportunity for close encounters.

Images by Carol Herrlie from AIM's 2005 Trip.



Harems each have their own personal stretch of beach.



Pups nurse, discover their fins and play like any other baby.



Bull elephants keep a vocal vigil over their territory.

Contact: Carol Herrlie, Group Leader for the Seahorses, AIM and Dolphin Divers of Sacramento. A Group from Monterey (MPUP), Castro Valley (Aqua Tutus) and Livermore (VDM) will be joining. This information should be available on your club's website....or visit: www.sacaim.com

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**Sign ups at the October and November meetings. Reservations to be made mid November.

This is getting pretty long! **Meeting on Wednesday, Oct 24th**

Glenn will be our 10-minute person,

We will try and show the videos that we couldn't show last time

If I left anything out, sorry. Flogging will be allowed after the drawing. See you there.

Karen



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