



APRIL 2008 NEWSLETTER

Last Month at AIM ~ MARCH, 2008

If you were unable to attend last month's meeting, here's what you missed: (Minutes from Kathy Moorse)

Events for your calendar ~

Earth Day Dive at Del Monte Beach, during the month of April. Website for more info – <http://www.dreamdiver.com/divein.htm> **April 19th & 20th**

NCUPS dive and beach photography competition 5/31 – 6/1

Dolphin Divers Crab Feed 6/21 – see Craig for info

AIM Film Festival 8/15 & 8/16

Craig showed the AIM letterhead for a welcome letter to new members. Very spiffy!

Stacy – 32 online member surveys have been completed. She's diligently working on pool time with Mike Johnson. Keep an eye on your email for short-notice pool sessions.

Perry mentioned Dolphin Dive Shop is offering a wreck diving class, taught by Rick. Class time is April 30, with May 3 & 4 on the wreck in San Diego. Dive boat will be the Lois Ann.

Treasurers report – we currently have 23 single & 14 family memberships

If you didn't get the newsletter via email, another way to see it is to visit the AIM website at <http://www.AIM.org>

Several AIM members will be off on a Thai/Cambodian adventure soon; yours truly included. The Bormanns will have returned from Fiji and have graciously volunteered to take notes for the April AIM meeting. Thank you!

The next AIM open Board Meeting is at Karen's April 3. If you can't make it; look for notes in an in-box near you. (?)

Dive Reports – Perry just returned from the Philippines with Dolphin Dive Shop. He "froze his ass off and saw

a lot of things he's never seen before". Vis was in the 40 – 50 foot range. Dumagette was the better resort and had better vis than Puerto Galera.

Dolphin Club Easter Egg Hunt in Monterey (should we talk about **COLD** here?) had 0 ft vis and many members attending with *most* getting Easter eggs and some getting "pity eggs". Joe even found an entire "clutch" of eggs. Barbara Bloom had breakfast (eggs?).

Ten minute person was Barbara Leary with a great slide presentation of Bonaire.

Q&A – Perry had White Balance Questions – u/w SLRs tend to white bal beforehand. Some adjust their cameras during the dive for perfection and some shoot with one setting and plan to adjust later. Glen uses light/sunny setting but will change on the fly as needed. Karen Manly tends to white bal before every shot on her video and says it makes a huge difference. I've seen the proof! Sharon Bormann's new video camera does not need to be white bal every time – she uses the auto-hi def setting.

Feature presenter was Andy Wallace who gave an awesome presentation on Adobe Lightroom which is described as software that "wraps itself around camera raw". It is a set of strictly photography tools (that Andy sees as an 80% solution) versus Photoshop which is graphics-based software. Lightroom does not degrade images (even JPG images) by creating another, separate file, or "sidecar" XMP file (Craig – metadata) that stores information about the image. Andy maintains that Lightroom functions as well on Apples as PCs.

Five main sections to the software ~

- Library ~ includes a database; allows you to apply keyword searches
- Development ~ adjust images
- Slideshow ~ "not great – limited only to pdf file format"
- Print Module ~ prints contact sheets, etc
- Web Module ~ a work in progress and will improve; easy to upload to websites but currently has limitations

Recommendation – always sharpen your RAW images radius .7, pushing some to 50 or 100.

You can download a free trial of Adobe Lightroom for 30 days. Full price is \$299.

Andy likes to use liveslideshow.com for his slide shows versus Adobe Lightroom slideshow feature.

Quote of the night: Andy asked if we all knew what a histogram was.

Craig said yes, he gets one every year.....

APRIL 3RD

MINUTES FROM AIM'S FIRST BOARD MEETING

From Carol

Topic Action and WHO IS TO FOLLOW-UP IN BOLD

Survey: to All AIM members/**Stacy Nguyen**

30 of 40 paid photo members replied..... 75%

Thank you all! Wonderful participation from the membership with many kind "comments" to Stacy for her efforts on this survey. Well done indeed! Responses extremely varied reflecting the level of experience with photography. Common points made were:

- 1) Highest response (75%+) : Camaraderie, 1 extended trip per year,
- 2) Responses: 50-75% : Editing options, Lighting techniques, Macro/Wide angle pearls, software suggestion , Keep it loose, What's new out there?, Fish ID/Behavior, Logging and Categorizing Images, Photo Field Trips, Seminars Evenings,
- 3) Responses: 32-49%: Seminars weekends, Camera Maintenance, Classes for Videographers, Critique Sessions, Basics of f-stops/shutter speed/composition, Pool Practices sessions 1-2X year, Unique functions for PC/MAC users, Classes for beginners with Point & Shoots, Marketing/Publishing your work, PADI class for photography.

Comments: Better utilize resources within the club; I don't know what PADI would do for me; utilize club member

resources for training vs paying for a PADI card/patch, Land, water and classroom opportunities for learning; We are new and have much to learn about equipment, subject and locations, Let's add a still and video competition to our calendar competition this year, How about adding an interclub/open underwater photo and video competition to our annual meeting or at another time, It is VERY unfortunate that this survey will lead to 80% of the members to express ideas/desires. 20% armchair quarterbacks. Many comments thanking Stacy for her interest and running the survey.

1 extended trip per year Suggested low cost/local trips 1 year...Suggestions: Cabo Pulmo Mexico Channel Islands: share boat with other photo clubs. Plan one exotic trip every other year due to high costs.

Photo Filed Trips:

Cover seminar basics

Brief intro at meetings Followed w/ field practice

Call these *Pro-Am Outings* with the Pros in the group supporting the others....

Utilize in-club expertise and have fun doing it! 3-4 per year/Quarterly. To avoid fragmentation of key points and practice, combine classroom with field practice and provide for review/critique/redos' on same day.

Suggestions: 1) Steinhart Aquarium, SFO...behind the scenes: **DAN LADESMA** and check into a local "pole bus" for ease of traveling. Equipped w/ TV/Video **BARBARA BLOOM**.

2) Combined campout trip to Manchester (DDC)

3) Fall Colors weekend.. worth repeating

4) mountain lake for calm water over-under training and practice

5) Half Moon Bay/ Pigeon Point Lighthouse: November 15th **HOLGER**

Camp or hotel options. Butterflies are visiting at this time also. **CAROL**

6) 2nd Saturday Art Walk Sacramento: assign a topic / theme and collect images, gather for dinner afterwards and project/critique **MARTY & VAL ONDRICKA**

7) Sacramento Zoo

8) Local parks for flora and fauna

Weekend Seminars:

May be combined with other club outings provided classroom content is presented, practice and review take place.. a dive weekend if fine as AIM is a "dive club"! A follow up to March's presentation on Light Room. Andy

Wallace can offer the training. Cost: \$50 pp \$45 if 10+ sign up. Groups can be less than 10 per class but the total 10+. Available dates for Andy: 4/12, 4/13, 4/20, 5/10, 5/11, 5/31, 6/1

Location for classes: Elk Grove (**BARBAFRA BLOOM**) or UCD (**MINH NGUYEN**)

Inquiries re: interests and dates to be sent out this week. **CAROL HERRLIE**

Minh to provide links for on-line links/tutoring: SEE COMPLETE REFERENCE BELOW*

Others offered by: **MARY ONDRICKA and GLENN MARSHALL.. TBA**

sacaim@yahoo.com Still some very fixable snags to the system

Board agreement: for AIM Members only. Establish one mailing list only. One person will manage with email changes as they happen. Would-be members will have an AIM Card and can reference material on line. Once they join, moderator will add to yahoo.

Too much confusion and duplication with 3 lists... 1 month to settle sacaim yahoo site and then other mailing list not the "official" list. Corinne will work with Holly re: workings of our yahoo groups. 1 month to phase out multiple list. **CRAIG BROOKEY**

Contact Holly to discuss group problems. **CORINNE FUERST**

Yahoo group to be set up as a "Reply to sender only"

Chain of organization: Secretary (Sharon) receives name and email. She would then forward information to yahoo moderator (**HOLLY JOHNSON**) and she alone will make the updates to the official sacaim@yahoo.com site..

New stationary

New Member letter of welcome. Craig and Carol designed official stationary... concept by Carol. Development and printing...Craig. To be used for official club communications/events/member letters.

WELCOME letter to new members will be given to all with 1) application 2) business card (s).Copies to be kept with the "traveling box" of AIM items: Projector, cards, letters. Software Updates

Some of the Newsletters are not arriving electronically as they are made or intended to arrive. MAC/PC communication glitches. MINH has suggested an Adobe product to simplify the Newsletter process.

Optional seminar to discuss this software and how it can help AIM in general as well as offer user friendly tool for other members. **MINH HUYEN**

Website 1) ..looking good. Many members have put images on line.....**CHARLES BORMANN**

2) Stay with 1 format for the "photo gallery" vs free form for each photographer. Cleaner, better flow and presentation to have One vs Many formats..

3) Contact Chuck re: updates: contact person (s), shutterbug-facilitator@sacaim.org TBA

SEND IMAGES TO CHUCK AS OFTEN AS YOU WISH....MORE IS BETTER

4) Contacts on line: emails preferred to giving out phone number unless OK'd w/member

5) See if we can add color photo (S) to home page. **CAROL HERRLIE via CHUCK**

Contents of Website Meeting announcements /Group Trip Summaries

Prior Newsletter Issues / Board Meeting summary

Links to a variety of dive and photo related sites. Update as new links are ID'd.

Continue to encourage members to submit to Chuck for posting pictures.

Video clips....can be added. Consult on "how to" is needed. **CAROL HERRLIE**

Add calendar of upcoming events. Provide to Chuck: **CAROL HERRLIE**

Film Festival

16 AUGUST 430p-1030p Dates firm... start setting this date aside and commit to family and friends. Cost PP \$20 for great dinner, show and prizes. I will send everyone the flier....copy and print to send to family, friends, other dive club members and coworkers.

Begin getting the word out.... collect \$20 pp and send to Sharon Bormann

Think Raffle Prizes..... Start gathering now.... coordinator: **DAN LADESMA**

BBQ: Member: hor'd /deserts only. Main dishes and meat to be provided by AIM.

BBQ chefs:David Ford, Cayle Little if available, Minh Nguyen. Food purchased by Carol.

Member registration to be on line; rules and guidelines on line and in flier. C AROL

Member participation with personal displays and art work. Plan is to have a "dark area" for video/ProShow Gold programs...not part of the formal program which has limited times.

Overnighters: Open Mic-Night Friday night. Set up equipment and show programs not in the festival...

Committee sign-up at the May AIM meeting. ... think of areas you can help!

Board approved paying the cost of Table/Chair rental. PERRY SPETZ may have access to some table and chairs.

Shade will be needed. HOLGER, CAYLE, Video Computer EquipmentAdapters X2 types needed

Remote control for running Power Point.

Board authorized the purchase of these 2 items **MINH NGUYEN**

Local Dives: Earth Day: little response

Point Lobos: Option for a group dive trip to Point Lobos... July Need to call 2 months in advance for reservations.

Sign up list at next meeting. **CORINNE FUERST**

NCUPS BEACH PHOTO COMPETITION Saturday May 31st..... Awards program on Sunday June 1st

Currently signed up participants: HOLGER FUERST, CAROL HERRLIE... anyone else?? Beach diving only so "non-cold water divers" welcome to film shore/topside.

MONTHLY MEETINGS will be coordinated by the following members:

April: Craig Brookey 10 minute person is Carl Sweet

May: Karen Manly

June: Marty & Valarie

July: Open

August: Carol Herrlie Film Festival

Sept. John Wolfe ?

Oct. John Wolfe?

Nov: Tom Moorse

December: Holiday Party

All group share at the party

NEXT BOARD MEETING: Thursday June 5th at 7PM at Barbara and Bill's house, 2707 Granite Park Lane
Elk Grove, CA 916-691-3535

UPCOMING EVENT: In-The-Water camera class on **MAY 18th**. Final decision was that it would be held at Barbara and Bill's club pool, where we can also have a BBQ. Sounds like a fun all-day learning experience. More details to follow after the group returns from Thailand.



SUPPORT THE NORTH CENTRAL COAST MARINE PROTECTED AREAS

'Underwater Yosemite' chart course for California's ocean legacy

North Central Coast

After months of hard work, the North Central Coast regional stakeholder group has finalized three proposals for protecting the coastline between San Mateo and Mendocino Counties. The plans vary in the level of protection they provide. The strongest plan, nicknamed "Proposal 4", would do the best job of helping California's ocean life recover and thrive.

On April 22-23, the state's Blue Ribbon Task Force (a high level group of policy advisors) will recommend one proposal to the Fish & Game Commission. Please join us in making your voice heard by sending an email.

We need your help! Fishing clubs have generated an avalanche of emails supporting the weakest plan. We want to make sure strong conservation voices balance that out to avoid the Task Force feeling like it has to lower the bar.

Please visit caloceans.org where you can easily send a public comment supporting the strongest of the three plans. Comments can also be emailed to MLPACComments@resources.ca.gov.

Let's follow on the footsteps of those who created our National Park System and save California's coast and ocean for generations to come.



Photos from the Kona Coast
December 2007
Karen Kessel

The Northern California Underwater Photographic Society

BEST of SHOW - Ethan Daniels



FILM/MACRO - Mark Krag



FILM WA - Chuck Tribolet



MACRO - Brad Brown



HUMOR - Jody Elliot



cordially invites one and all to its

27th Annual California Beach Dive Photo Competition

May 31 & June 1, 2008

Visit

www.ncups.org

to download your entry form and rules for competition

(The entry fee is \$75.00 if paid through PayPal or postmarked on or before May 16, 2008, \$90.00 cash or check thereafter. Registration on Saturday is allowed until 9am. The entry fee includes a T-shirt, Saturday night dinner & show, and admission to Sunday seminar and a chance to win a door prize at the Sunday awards ceremony)

Schedule of Events

Saturday, May 31, 2008

- 7:30am-9:00am: Registration at Aquarius Dive Shop, 2040 Del Monte Blvd., Monterey, CA
- 7:30am-4:00pm: Dive and shoot images
- 3:00pm-4:00pm: Film drop off at Backscatter, 225 Cannery Row, Monterey. 4:00pm film is taken for developing. **Film dropped off after 4:00pm will not be processed or judged.**
- 3:00pm-5:00pm: Digital images submitted at Backscatter, 225 Cannery Row, Monterey. Bring your own laptop to review images. **Backscatter closes at 5:00pm, so all images must be submitted by 5:00pm.**
- 5:45pm-6:45pm: Cocktail hour at Carmel Women's Club, SW corner of 9th & San Carlos, **Carmel**, across from the Sunset Center
- 6:45pm-9:00pm: Dinner & Presentation at Carmel Women's Club, SW corner of 9th & San Carlos, **Carmel**, across from the Sunset Center

Sunday, June 1, 2008

- 7:30am-8:30am: Slide selection at Monterey Institute of International Studies McCone Building, 499 Pierce Street, Room M-238 in the lobby, **Monterey**
- 8:30am-2:00pm: Judging of images
- 9:00am-12:00pm: Underwater Photography Seminar at Monterey Institute of International Studies Irving Auditorium in the McCone Building, 499 Pierce Street, **Monterey**
- 3:00pm-5:00pm: Winners Show and Prize Selection at Monterey Institute of International Studies Irving Auditorium in the McCone Building, 499 Pierce Street, **Monterey**

The Northern California Underwater Photographic Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit educational organization formed to promote interest in underwater photography.