



JULY Newsletter 2008

Last Month at AIM ~
JUNE, 2008

If you were unable to attend last month's meeting, here's what you missed:

Events for your calendar ~

8/7 - AIM Board Meeting at Round Table Pizza in Orangevale

8/15 & 8/16 - AIM Film Festival. Deadline for submitting video programs is JULY 23. Be sure to invite your friends! We have some great raffle prizes so bring lots of money, too.

9/13 – Progressive Photo Shoot Party. More to come from Stacy and Holger.

11/15 - Pigeon Point Lighthouse Annual Lighting. See Corinne & Holger.

Dive Reports – Joe, Carol, Art & Ruth had just returned from British Columbia onboard the Nautilus Explorer. Joe reported many dives were at 40 feet, with 40 foot vis, at 40 minutes and 44 degrees! Sea life is similar to what we see in Monterey, only BIGGER. One encounter with a pack of stellar sea lions (AKA “marine grizzlies”) proved to really have some “teeth”. Ask Joe to see his hood if you missed it.

No night dives on this trip because it never gets dark!

Barbara Leary, Sharon & Chuck took a trip to Fiji and stayed onboard the Nai'a. It was a really nice boat and crew and also had Stan Waterman on board (who is 85 years old and gave many presentations during the trip). Sharon put her new video camera to work.

Paul & Sandy took their “do-over hurricane trip” to Honduras on the Utila Agressor; with much better weather this time. Reefs were healthy but were lacking fish.

Holger & Corinne spent Father’s Day at Ocean Cove, doing a shore dive at Gerstle Cove. Vis was between 5 and 6 feet and water temp was 53 degrees. Holger had fun with his fish-eye lens.

Tom & Kathy, Paul & Sandy, Michelle and Dennis went to Manchester Beach campground and Point Arena with the Seahorse Dive Club on June 20 - 22. The only diving was for abalone Friday & Saturday. Conditions were much better Friday afternoon, with the wind whipping up early on Saturday.

Last but not least, Marty Ondricka scraped barnacles off his sailboat in Berkley Marina. He wins with the lowest vis, coming in at 5 - 7 INCHES.

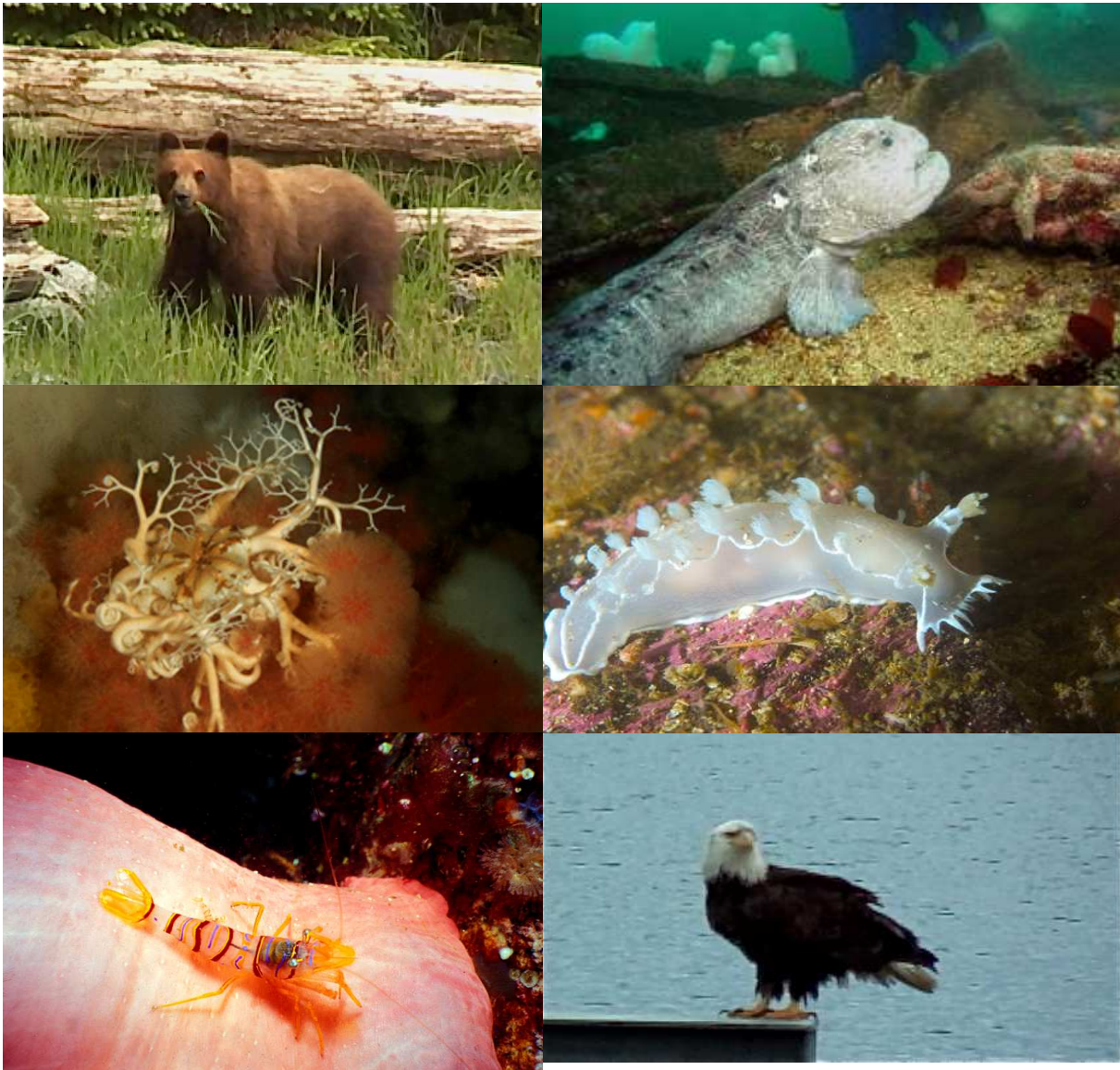
Four AIM Members Go to British Columbia and Alaska on the Nautilus Explorer in June

AIM Members Carol and Joe Herrlie, Ruth Chofre and Art Haseltine spent 10 wonderful days in the Pacific Northwest on the wonderfully comfortable and accommodating 116’ Nautilus Explorer. A great time was had by all. The guest list was made up was a wonderful international mix: Americans, English, Swiss and 3 delightful Frenchmen/ 1 Frenchwoman. A delightful young photographer from Santa Cruz brought a bunch of his friends and ...wow .. what images. See. www.flickr.com/photos/jimpatterson See pages 3, 4, 5 Unbelievable images. We saw it all and, Jim has got awesome images.! What a delightful young talent! His images were taken with a D-300. Another wonderful photographer (besides the AIM group of course) came from Washington with his wife . Mike and Roberta Nebel. Great photo galley option to consider... check it out. www.nebelsmugmug.com. What a fun, talented bunch and diverse group join us on this trip.

We arrived in Vancouver, BC and ended in Sitka, Alaska. The Pacific Northwest is unspoiled and such a great place....much as it has been since the start of time. The water was a warm 42-44, the vis variable from 15-45 feet. The air was clean and clear...1 day of rain for us...we were lucky! The animals are never disappointing...wolf eels, rat fish, nudis on steroids, giant metridiums of pink and white, starfish, lots of entertaining crabs, big healthy rockfish and ling cods 4 feet long!...One adrenalin dive was with stellar sea lions....they are curious, like to bite at your camera gear and try to pull off your hood. Next time, hard hats are going to be recommended... getting a little too “engaging” so head protection may be in order. And then, topside: the bald eagles, black and

brown grizzlies walking the beach and munchin on grasses, snorkeling or kayaking along the ice bergs in glacial waters....that was a hoot! We literally had champagne on ice delivered to us by the crew on kayaks. We hiked along a water fall and soaked in the natural hot springs at Warm Springs, Baronoff Island until midnight! We barely needed our flash light for the hike back to the dock. By the way...no night dives. It never got dark! So much to see above and below on this trip...Just a few images below. We will put a full presentation for all to enjoy for by 2009....

Stellar Sea Lions just a few from the colony. 1 of many curious interactions. Video still capture in sepia and color....My video clip with a couple still image captures by Barbara Bloom...what would I do without her help! Two more stills from my video of a bald eagle and a grizzly....again with the help of Barbara. Thanks a million!





Art Haseltine, Joe Herrlie, Carol Herrlie and Ruth Chofre

OTHER AIM NEWS

**NEXT MEETING JULY 23RD
ROUND TABLE PIZZA
7 PM**

**PRESENTER WILL BE BILL LEVINE
TALKING ABOUT HIS YUCCATAN TRIP AND CAVE DIVING VS
CAVERN DIVING**

CLASSIFIED AD

**FOR SALE: NISSAN ACHELLES DIVE BOAT WITH TRAILER
35 HP MOTOR, 13' LONG. USED 16 HOURS!!
\$4500 383-8728 OR 997-4009**

**A WILD BUNCH OF AIM MEMBERS TRAVEL TO SONORA
FOR A SEAHORSES MEETING ON JULY 12TH**



it was a very serious meeting.....