



# FATHOMIERS NEWSLETTER

FREEDIVING – SPEARFISHING – COMPETITION  
SINCE 1957

## GET SOME REST, TYLER.

I'm sure you all have noticed how smooth the newsletter has become over the last few years. Well, that is all about to change. I am going to take over the seemingly impossible task of editor of our newsletter, and give Tyler a break. Mark and Skip have pledged help, as have some tentatives. That is a good thing, as I am gonna need some serious help for a few months. So, I can only stress to you how important it is that there be some input as to what you would like to see in YOUR newsletter. Tyler cried a mile for this, and he was awesome at finding filler for the articles. Unless you want to hear a LOT of garb about truck suspension, steel vs. aluminum, how to fix a house, or nookie pics, I suggest you send me some stuff, and FAST!!! There are a lot of you I will Rely on. Rene, Doug, Skip, Larry, Tyler, Stathis, Joe, and Terry . The frequent fliers. I am not at all saying I don't want to hear from you. Not that at all. It's just that these are our most prolific article submitters, and we need more, from some other divers. The second most are Rich, Brandon, Ed Glass, John Iwanec, Marcos, Clint, Mark Navas, Eric, and Al Schneperschhoff. I know I missed some, I don't really give a hoot.

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## WELCOME FROM THE PRESIDENT

First I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for allowing me to serve you for another year. It's an honor and a pleasure and the Board joins me when we say thanks for having faith in us.

An advantage to serving for two years is that it takes a year to really determine the needs of the organization and together with the other Board Members we have identified some changes we would like you to consider for the New Year. If you attended the January meeting you know a few general members have brought forth ideas and we'll list those here as well. We'll vote on the issues during the March Meeting. Paul Romanowski's proposal for the "Ten out of Twelve Dives" issue was passed at the January meeting by popu-

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January, 2005

Vol.?? No. 1.

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### Special points of interest:

- We will be sending a addendum, or a really FAT Feb. newsletter with some rule change proposals. They are wide ranging, but meant to help the club in the long run. Stay tuned.

THE FATHMIERS NEWSLETTER IS THE  
OFFICIAL MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE  
LOS ANGELES FATHMIERS

**The Fathomiers is a Southern California club dedicated  
to Freediving and Competitive Spearfishing.**

Membership is open to the public. To become an Active member, you must fulfill obligations and conditions. You can also become an Associate Member for \$20. Contact the Fathomiers for further information.

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The editor reserves the right to make spelling and grammatical corrections to submissions, and may rewrite sections for purposes of clarity and/or space considerations. The intent and meaning of submissions shall be maintained as closely as possible. Anyone who has submitted an article may request a preview of their article as it will appear in the publication. At that time the submitter may request changes or withdrawal of the article. The editor and the club officers will determine which submissions to include and which to exclude. While reasonable effort is expended to ensure accuracy of the information in this newsletter, we do not guarantee it. The editor, and the Fathomiers and it's officers, shall not be held liable for errors in this newsletter. The Fathomiers do not accept paid advertisements.

Submissions are needed. Articles or information may be mailed, emailed, or communicated over the phone. Photographs submitted will be returned to the owner after publication. Please take the initiative to contact me or to send me materials. If you have information for the newsletter, do not depend on "word of mouth" to get it to

## December 2004 Minutes

Meeting was called to order at 7:45 pm by president Clint Koberstein.

Visitors introduced themselves.

Members voted for 2005 Board. Results are as follows: President: Erik banados, Vice {President: Richard Balta, Secretary: Stathis Kostopoulos, Treasurer: Dan carlberg, Newsletter editor: Paul Romanowski, Recorder: Tim Driskell, Conservation liaison: Gary Thompson.

The fathomiers website will be moving to a new web address, **fathomiers.net**. Cisco will be requested to be the official Webmaster of the club.

There were 3 interesting gear presentations from Skip, Mori, and Rene. Rene also gave us an update on the last World Meet.

We heard exciting fish stories from Brandon, Paul, and Tim.

## Dive Schedule, 2005

Our January dive is slated for Redondo breakwall. Jan. 30. This is a first for our club at this location, so I have no real advice for the diving here. Some lobster should be around, for sure. The vis here can be better than most spots, but we usually dive it at night. 3 fish meet, 1 per species. There is a pay parking area at the north end of Redondo harbor...King Harbor Yacht club. Take Torrance to Catalina ave., go north. Left at Club way. There are 2 parking lots here, one is metered, the other is in the yacht club basin. That is the preferred area to park. We will start at 8am. Members will figure out the staging the day of the meet.

Before winter killed off the good water, reports of bonito around the harbor, as well as a few halibut. Also, this is a good area for large barred surf perch and corbina. It's a breakwall.... Should be some bass around. Sheephead are closed.

The February dive is at Malaga cove. NOT a scramble type PV meet. Long walk down the hill. This could be an interesting dive. It could be FILTHY... Who knows. 10 fish meet, 3 per species. Sheephead and lingcod are CLOSED until Mar 1. Expect to see a monster goat, acting like a puppy dog. Sorry, Charlie. Feb 27. 8 am start time. At the Malaga cove parking lot.

# December 2004 Fathomiers Competitive Results

A great surprise to all, Paul Romanowski captured the Al Shuck point, saving him from Tim's wrath. Now, for the new year, the Al Shuck is up for grabs, with a clean slate for all. Come and get it!



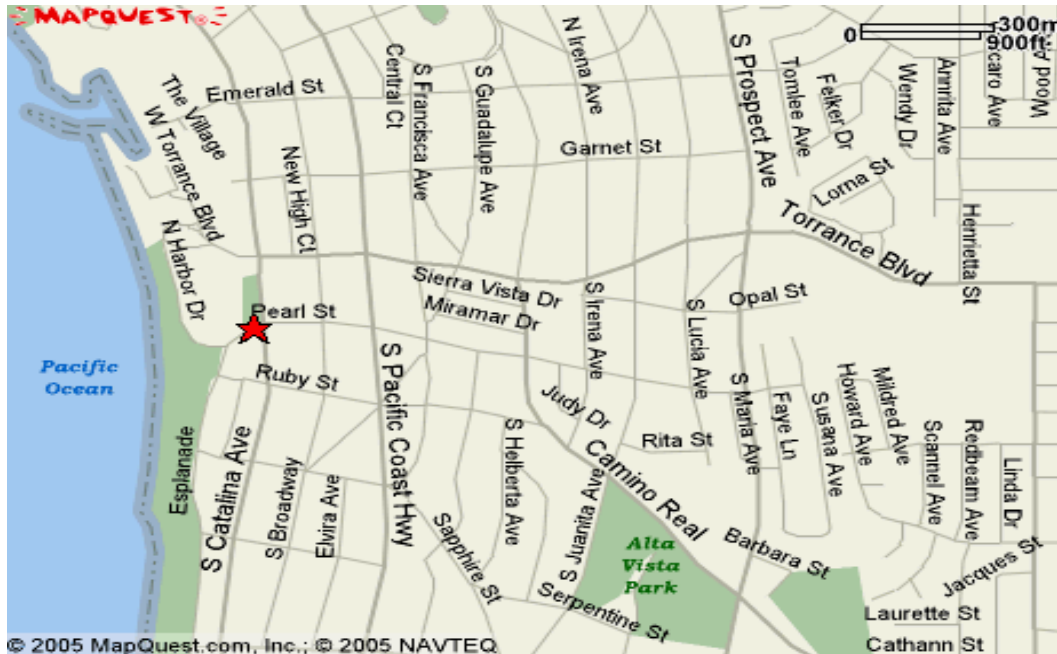
## December Club dive at "Pt. DOOM!" Larry Staat polespear meet.

Divers were greeted to stiff wind and foggy conditions, and we went for it. In the end, Paul won the meet, Richard was second, but it wasn't enough for them to stop David Galich from winning the Larry Staat Polespear meet. The deceptive weather gave way to the BEST water clarity seen all year, approaching 60ft. Vis! Thanks to all the competitors who made the meet a success. Mark Navas wrapped up the championship for the year, with flawless consistency, and making all 12 dives. Congratulations, Mark!



NAME	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	rank
Mark Navas	100	65	51	75	53	100	49	13.8	58	62	41.2	51.28	718.80	# 1.!!
Brandon Wahlers	63	79	100	88	18	X	X	44	57	100	84.3	0	633.86	2
Paul Romanowski	X	68	X	100	100	73	X	33.9	63	X	11	100	549.29	3
Tim Driskell	X	X	49	43	23	21	100	33.8	45	X	11.4	53	379.15	4
Fil Labatista	87	81	X	X	24	X	X	45.3	43	X	0	62.52	343.24	5
Rene Rojas	X	100	71	X	X	X	X	100	X	X	0	0	271.45	7
Richard Balta	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	31.9	100	X	100	91.22	323.12	6
Mike Pender	X	33	67	X	26	X	X	12.1	X	X	0	0	138.5	9
Brian Dreiling	X	33	X	43	X	X	X	11.1	37	X	0	0	123.99	10
Doug Van Mullem	X	X	X	X	17	X	X	93.9	X	X	0	0	111.3	11
Zoilo Velazquez	X	X	X	X	X	X	79	16.6	X	X	0	0	95.1	12
Clint Koberstien	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	87.3	X	X	0	0	87.3	13
Anthony Funicello	X	X	66	X	X	X	X	17.3	X	X	0	0	83.75	14
Erik Banados	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	41.8	37	X	0	0	79.24	15
Dave Galich	X	X	37	18	20	X	X	X	X	X	0	69.35	145.17	8
Carlos Serret	X	X	70	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	0	69.58	16
Erez Abayov	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	36.9	26	X	0	0	63.02	17
Gary Jones	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	54.7	X	X	0	0	54.7	18
Ernie Schultz	X	42	X	X	6.1	X	X	X	X	X	0	0	48.13	19
Stathis Kostopolis	X	X	31	X	X	X	X	13.3	X	X	0	0	44.13	20
Carlos Serret	X	X	X	X	X	13	X	X	X	X	0	0	13.2	21
Thom Fogerty	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	12	X	0	0	12.15	22
Kimo Romanowski	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8.9	X	0	0	8.88	23

Next Meeting SATURDAY, FEBRUARY, 19th ANNUAL BANQUET &  
AWARDS CEREMONY 6pm cocktails, 7pm dinner, 8pm awards.  
ELKS LODGE #1378  
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Our club is blessed with divers and friends around the world. We get out a lot, and though we don't always score big, we always learn a lot, and seem to have a good time. The best stories in life are not when you speared this big ????, but how you stubbed you toe carrying it to the car. Now THAT'S funny!! Tell me about that. Tell me about inhaling a jellyfish, and sneezing it out your NOSE when it stung the crap out of your mouth!!!! Or how your buddy was asking if it's okay to take a boat with a broken hull to Catalina to try and win some tournament!!!! In the 8 years I've been here, I have heard enough **SHIBAI** to make my head reel, and some of it wasn't even MINE!! If you have ever gone fishing, you are a storyteller. The true story is not always the fish, but the journey to the fish. Why on earth would we drive all night to chase a snail on the rocks, when he can't run anyway???

I am going to include a new column each month, focusing on the dive meet locations. I'll do my best, with my **limited** supplemental knowledge of our local dive spots, to help you on your quest for a good dive spot. Any info will be greatly appreciated.

"Mr. RULES" Navas will be helping us out with a monthly warning of what you should not shoot. He will be more busy than ME!!! Seriously, Mark has a handle on this, and he is going to save us from ourselves.

If your name was not mentioned earlier, I am asking you to think back, and remember a time... and humor us a bit. Good times, bad times... Dive times.

## CURRENTS

No news is THE news. We got some rain... I saw an old man building a boat, and animals were lining up 2 by 2 to get on board. I mean it RAINED. No local diving to speak of, though now the weather is tip top. Oh well. Next month. For a rundown, The nice people of Adelaide, Australia came to the conclusion that they will have to eliminate the 2 GWS who killed a teen boy riding a sled behind a boat. Score "1" for common sense. Our state is going after the MLPA meetings again. New director of DFG, new governor, same old thing. Write letters, go to hearings when you can. Don't bother to cry the "Divers don't take much/selective hunters" cry. Try the "EQUAL ACCESS TO ALL". As fishermen, we get pitted against seal huggers, Commercial fishing, and Land encroachment issues. Fight to keep it all open. Divide and conquer, baby. That's how they got us in the first place.

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lar vote. Paul has been of great assistance in identifying needs in our Competition program and I will attempt to "stream line" some of his other recommendations so they can be incorporated into the Constitution if they should pass. All of the issues listed below were discussed briefly during the January meeting. Now they are posted and we will discuss or debate them in March and take a final vote. I encourage all of you to be at the March meeting.

I'd just like to say a couple words about the dues proposal. Our Treasurer Dan Carlberg points out that our dues have not increased in ten years. Obviously the cost daily of life and our operation has increased much since then. That very basic and obvious fact should be enough to obtain an affirmative vote but let me point out some other facts; In the past, various Club Recorders have generally taken it upon themselves to provide some degree of food and drink at our monthly dives and even though the club has offered to pick up the tab, the Recorders being Board Members and aware of the status of the budget have ignored the offer. The Fathomiers is a major dive club and the club should meet this need not a couple of individuals. It is our intention to fix a budget for \$33 per month for this expense and the increase in dues will allow us to do that.

Secondly if you've noticed our neighboring club, the Neptunes... They have had a \$50 dues schedule for years. Ours remain at \$30 and there is no comparison between our operating costs. We offer six trophies for the Scramble Meet, Six for the Stugrill Meet, Special Trophies for Al Schuck, Larry Statt and Steve Redding. At this years Banquet we will give Thirty-Three Awards and the Banquet hall alone has a price tag of \$400 on it. Our Newsletter is a work of art!!! There is no newsletter in the diving world that can compare with it. We are a class club and our people deserve the best we can give them. So...I would ask that when it comes time to vote, please vote in favor of a dues increase to \$40 for Members and \$30 for Associates.



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This could be your story, or a map of your favorite dive spot, or a diagram of how to rig your gear/ tie a special knot. It will remain **EMPTY** if you don't come up with something diving related. Help us to entertain our divers.

**Next Club Meeting**  
**Our annual Banquet.**

**Feb19, 2005**

315 Esplanade  
Redondo Bch.

March meeting

Tentatively set for 2nd  
Monday/ Wednesday .

Exact date TBA..

**Next Club Dives**

**Jan 30**

Redondo BKW

8am-130

**Feb.27**

Malaga cove

Palos Verdes



This may be you, or at least your shot. I am hoping for a Pic of the month here....NOT just fish pics, but any great pic you can come up with yourself. We are easy...

**IMPRESS US!!**

