

La Verne Eco Dive Club
Minutes from January 8th 2009

The meeting was sparsely attended mainly due I think to being so soon after the New Year! There was in total 15 altogether, Debbie and Ed Lux were out of town. Also Sean Figueroa was unable to attend the meeting due to new work hours and said he would probably miss the next few meetings. So Tina his wife represented him as vice President.

Mike and Sharol Carter had brought their videos of Hawaii everyone ordered food: then Al called the meeting to order.

The first item on his agenda was Club Membership and everyone to fill out a new membership form and will get the club start paying membership dues yearly and pro rate the months as needed so no one would feel cheated.

Next Dave Bower said the boat trip was up to 24 people in total but not many from the Dive club, that said, Diana, Mike, Sharol, Tony, are signed up and I believe a few others from the club. (Sean, Tina, Mike Laban, Ron Springer)

Sharkys News.

Tony had prepared a few things to say.

1. Galapagos trip had only one spot left
2. 9-11th Channel Island trip planned
3. Talked about Chamber Night
4. Said he had been working to gain specialty training.
5. Finally his big topic was the underwater clean up at Catalina Island on 21st February, which Dave Bower had suggested we do as a club, Tony suggested that we all register with him through Sharkys Dive shop and discussed the best place for entering the water.

Al brought up that Tony also had removed himself from the yahoo group mailing list and said that everyone should keep checking on his web site, Al offered that the yahoo group was a great tool for getting to all the club members, Tony held his ground saying he would send out an e-mail to everyone on his e-mail list so Al could forward it on to the club! (Al and Suzy have not received anything from Sharkys e-mail list for a few months!)

Tony congratulations to Mike and Sharol Carter for getting their names in print for the DESQuest 3, in the DAN publication.

AL also made a comment on Mike and Sharols achievement.

Al also wanted to discuss plans for 2009. Asked that people bring ideas to the next meeting.

Club T-shirts were discussed again! Dave Bower suggested we go to Café Press they were \$20 each, Al was waiting for an order of 24 t-shirts , Sharol Carter suggested we went ahead and ordered the t-shirts and extra ones in popular sizing. Joel also had a suggestion that the club fee included the t-shirt.

Dave Bower started talking about club diving with Reef Check and Santa Monica Bay Keepers, Then a general discussion followed of shark finning, Suzy mentioned about Presidents Bush gift of 200,000 square miles of ocean which is protected!

Dave Bower mentioned that we should as a club sign a pledge in favor of protecting different proposals such as banning shark finning. To write to David Dryers.

Suzy did a presentation on Ocean Riders and talked about the seahorse farm in Kona Hawaii and then showed the DVD on Sea Horses and how they give birth etc.. everyone seemed to enjoy the DVD. There was also an earthquake in the middle of the DVD presentation.

As Al was ready to close the meeting and in doing so asked if anyone had anything to say. Dave Bower told everyone present that Suzy could not be a club secretary as Suzy no longer was affiliated with Sharkys Eco Dive shop and that Suzy had access to all the club members e-mails and numbers. To which Tony added Suzy had been using the club list to get students which would have gone to his shop! Suzy STRONGLY denied the accusation, and told Tony and Catalina that she had enjoyed working at the shop and had not taught a class since the last navigation class through the shop in October! Suzy asked Dave Bower what the solution was and Dave replied Suzy could be a member of the Dive club but not a board member then she could teach and do what she pleased. Suzy added to Dave that she did not quit rather Tony told Suzy that he could not afford another instructor and that he was going to do all the teaching and wished me luck.

Tony told Al he would take him to court!! Al has followed the bylaws and said that he and Suzy have the interests of the Dive Club and they should be allowed to shop were they want and dive with who ever they want. Tony made a comment that Suzy should not use his client base, and Al also mentioned that there was a lot of other students divers that did not want to go to Sharkies, Tony stood up and told Al he should have removed him from President months ago! Then Tony told everyone he was withdrawing sponsorship from the club and wanted nothing else to do with La Verne Eco Dive Club.

Statement from the secretary:

I personally would like to say I have not called or e-mailed any club member telling them I can teach them. I have been busy with my life of sport and scuba diving with my husband doing pleasure dives. I have only the best interest of the club and that is to enjoy friendship at club meetings talk about diving or related topics and do fun stuff such as the clean up at Lake Perris. I have not taught any students that did not go through the shop while I was working there everyone I certified went through the shop! Tony terminated my contact with the shop on November 3rd.

Comment from the incorporator and webmaster (Mike Carter):

The purpose of the club as stated in the bylaws is:

The specific purpose of this corporation is to promote and enhance a particular recreational or sporting activity, aid the environment in which such activity takes place, raise awareness of the opportunities to participate in such activities, and provide social interaction and fellowship among those with similar interests in such activities.

I suggest that we keep this in mind and make this the best dive club we possibly can.