



# Buddy Line

## 4-Day So. Cal. Liveaboard in November

by Ralph Wolf

NCRD will be visiting the Channel Islands National Park November 3<sup>rd</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup>. These eight protected islands lie 20 to 80 miles off the coast, stretching from Santa Barbara to just north of Los Angeles. They're too far to visit by day boat, so we'll meander among them for 4 days aboard the 80' custom dive boat "Vision". The trip is limited to just 28 divers to ensure plenty of room on the boat. There are still a few spots left, but time is running out. If you'd like to join us, you should act fast.

Santa Rosa and San Miguel. Sadly, we'll have to stop diving around 1pm on Monday. During the 4-hour channel crossing back to the dock, we pack up, lay in the sun, watch for dolphins and whales, read or just nap. The terrific visibility and ease of diving off the boat make this a great first liveaboard experience for new cold-water divers.

In the mornings, we'll be diving a mix of pinnacles and deeper banks, such as Judith's Pinnacle or Farnsworth Banks. Later each day and into the evenings, we'll visit



Jim McDermott cruising through heavy vegetation near Bird Rock.

Photo by Ralph Wolf

The Vision heads out at 10pm on Thursday from the Santa Barbara harbor and cruises overnight to the Southern Channel Islands. Depending on weather conditions, we could dive Santa Catalina, San Nicolas or Santa Barbara. This terrain is a mix of canyons, sea mounts, and gently sloping shoreline reefs thriving with life. We wander our way back via the Northern Channel Islands: Anacapa, Santa Cruz,

wonderful shoreline sites such as Iron Bound cove and the Goldfish Bowl. Every trip to the Channel Islands is different. The captain will work with Peg Stone, our trip organizer, throughout the cruise to refine the dive plan to take into account the weather, dive conditions and divers' requests. The leeward side of Santa Catalina, full of garibaldi, invertebrates and lobster, offers sites such as Ship Rock, where we might even spot the gentle angel shark. Farnsworth Banks, on the weather side of the island, offers the opportunity to go deep (or stay shallow) and see the rare purple hydrocoral, a true hard coral in California waters.

## Editor's Log

by Karen Doby

Much has happened since our last issue for Pride in June. In August, the club held its first annual BBQ, hosted by Larry Chow and Ralph Wolf, a huge success by all accounts. Check out Dennis Nix' account of this wonderful event. September marked the advent of DFL, held this year in Curacao with 35 NCRD members attending, partying, and "Diving for Life". Nisa Donnelly's insightful article conveys an excellent review of this annual favorite. Featured dive spots include David Zippin's inspiring portrait of Point Lobos diving, while Kelly Thiemann extols her adventures with whale sharks in Utila.

One thing you may notice is that a few faces have changed. First, we welcome Kelly Thiemann as NCRD's new liaison to DFL, replacing Steve Graham. Many thanks are due Steve for his years of service in this role. Second, Ralph Wolf has stepped up to relieve Bob Sommer as our local Dive Planner. We wish Bob all the best as he moves forward with his IDC instructor training. Third, the multi-talented Doug McGrath has passed the baton to Karen Doby as newsletter editor. This last change brings with it the introduction of a new column, *Dear Dive Nerd*. One of our most seasoned divemasters answers your questions, not always how you might anticipate (no, I won't say who it is! — you have to read and guess).

Finally, don't miss out on the fun of our annual Vision trip in early November!

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## Diving at Point Lobos: A Unique Experience

by David Zippin

I've been diving at Point Lobos over a dozen times now, and it never gets old! Why is diving there so special? Well, for one thing, you never have to worry about crowds. Point Lobos State Reserve limits the number of divers to 15 buddy teams a day. On top of that, the parking lot at Whaler's Cove only fits about 20 cars, so there's never a crush of tourists, either. Bathrooms and plentiful picnic tables are a few steps away from the boat ramp, which has to be one of the easiest shore diving entries around. And they even have a freshwater hose to rinse your gear! It truly is diving at its most leisurely. With a short swim out of Whaler's Cove past sea otters, cormorants, and harbor seals, the diving begins.



Grass Rockfish

The area is surrounded by the first marine protected area in the United States, a 1.2-square-mile State Marine Reserve designated in 1960. No fish or other marine life can be taken from the reserve. As a result, fish like lingcod, cabezon, and California sheephead are often seen and grow quite large. Colorful rockfish are also common. According to data from REEF volunteers, the most common



Crab

All photos by David Zippin

rockfish at Point Lobos, in order of sighting frequency, are blue, kelp, copper, gopher, and black-and-yellow rockfish. In fact, 14 species of rockfish have been sighted there, so bring your fish ID book! Divers with keen eyes find



Tritonia Festiva

many tiny, gaudy nudibranchs along rock walls, along with anemones, snails, colorful fungi, sea stars, and other abundant life. Plain yellow and white nudibranchs are common. If you're lucky, you may spot *Hermisenda crassicornis*, Hilton's aeolid, *Tritonia festiva* (the name says it all), or Spanish shawl. Topography is also highly variable, making each dive a little different. There are sand channels, vertical walls, crevices, and dense kelp forests.



Hilton's Aeolid Phidana

One of my best dives to Point Lobos was this past July 31. Typically in the summer, visibility doesn't get much better than 10-15 feet due to phytoplankton blooms. That day,



It's Patrick!

however, dive conditions were nearly perfect. Visibility was 20-30 feet, and there was practically no surge or waves. It was so calm that swimming on the surface I could tilt my head horizontally and look underwater and above water at the same time. So that's how sea otters feel! Temperatures were on the cold side for Monterey Bay (my gauge said 52°F), but my dry suit did its job keeping me warm. When



Kelp Forest at Point Lobos

the sun came out on the second dive, sunbeams shot through the dense kelp forest. I often rolled on my back and stared up from 30 feet down, trying to capture the beauty with my camera. It was magical.

The best part of the trip was the big NCRD group who came that day, making it a reunion of friends and a great opportunity to make new friends. Divers included Karen Doby, Feney Matthews, Dave Milani, Gary Morgret, Lisa Newman, Sharon Ponder, Peg Stone, Joe Wofford, and Sharron Zoyhofski. We all agreed it was among the best dives we had ever had at Point Lobos, itself a world-class dive site.

## NCRD's Eat Like a Whale! Annual BBQ a Smash! Bigger Wetsuits for All!

by Dennis Nix

There are many good reasons to be part of NCRD. First, there are the great dive trips to places near and far. Some of the places we go to are familiar to many of us, such as the upcoming Vision trip to the Channel Islands or our fairly regular trips to Roatán or Cozumel.

Then every so often someone finds a really exotic trip, such as the one upcoming to Wakatobi. Secondly, we get to dive with people who care about our safety, other LGBT divers and our friends. Finally, there are great programs and an opportunity to help local charities through DFL. Now we have the beginning of a new tradition: our annual BBQ and social on the Peninsula. Membership certainly does have its rewards!

This year's BBQ took place on August 13<sup>th</sup> at the home of Larry Chow and Ralph Wolf in Palo Alto. This is soon to become one of the premier social events of the gay diving community. This event had everything -- great food, a chance to meet old friends and make new ones, a swap meet and even sunshine (something San Franciscans don't see much of in the summer).

If you weren't there, it's hard to appreciate how well we ate. When I do a BBQ, it means hot dogs, burgers and whatever else I pick up at Costco. From the spread Larry and Ralph put out, it's pretty evident that they're not related to the Kirkland's. Larry prepared a full menu from chicken to burgers, roasted peppers, mushroom "steaks", corn on the cob, fresh salads, and even homemade fresh fruit tarts. The preparation and care Larry put into the food was evident not

only from the taste, variety and quantity, but in the little things that went into the food. He casually mentioned that the olive oil he used on the roasted peppers comes from a "Tuscan connection" he's cultivated over the years. He was a little



Membership Director Jack Johnson delivering the welcome address  
Photo by Larry Chow

tired because he had to be at the Farmers' Market bright and early to pick up the corn as soon as it arrived from the farm. While Larry was busy with the food prep, Ralph was prepping for the swap meet.

If you don't know Ralph, you may not know that like Larry, Ralph's also an overachiever. A swap meet doesn't mean just putting a table out and having divers display their equipment. It means providing a rack to hang dive clothing, an air tank to test regulators, another to test for water leaks. Ralph put out advisories, making sure that people understood the risks of buying used equipment and asking sellers to make sure the equipment they were selling didn't pose a safety hazard to the buyers. There were little tags to price the equipment and announcements for dive classes. All he would've needed were four walls and he'd have a dive shop.

It was lots of fun seeing what one person considered disposable and another a treasure. Sellers really didn't want to make money as much as they wanted to see other divers enjoying their old beloved equipment.

No matter how good the food is, a BBQ isn't much fun without people. When it comes to people, NCRD's are the best! We reunited with old friends with whom we've dove for years. Some we don't see often, as weekday rush-hour traffic makes it hard to get to a meeting in the city or on the Peninsula. Sometimes we're on different trips from our old buddies, as some of us only dive cold water, some warm water. And, it's fun to feel the energy of first-time divers and guide them through their training. Fortunately, we were all able to be together at the BBQ.

Membership does have its rewards: great diving, good food, and nice people! Thanks to the hospitality and hard work of Larry Chow and Ralph Wolf, this summer the rewards are a whole lot better.



Fresh-cut flowers: simply elegant!  
Photo by Ann Bauman

## Whale Sharks in Utila, Honduras

by Kelly Thiemann

Seeing whale sharks is the diver's Holy Grail or, at a minimum, on everyone's top ten list of things to see.

My quest for whale sharks began in the Galápagos last December. That attempt failed; they had migrated south two weeks earlier. The second attempt began this past April. While spending three frustrating hours trying to copy the DVD from Galápagos, I found a willing dive buddy in Karen Doby and was assigned the task of finding the dive operation and a place to stay. I consulted my Undercurrent CHAPS book -- a great resource for dive travel ([www.undercurrents.org](http://www.undercurrents.org)), as it has reviews by people who have stayed at a resort or used a particular dive operator. Rodale's website, [www.scubadiving.com](http://www.scubadiving.com), was also helpful. Both claimed the Laguna Beach Resort ([www.utila.com](http://www.utila.com)) was the place to be for whale shark sightings.

Getting to Utila is no easy feat. We took the "red-eye" from SFO to San Salvador, from San Salvador to San Pedro Sula, then from San Pedro Sula to La Ceiba and then on to Utila. At each destination there was a progressively smaller airplane.

Karen, Ann (my partner) and I arrived and after a while began asking, "when do we get to see the whale sharks?" The resort staff was appropriately vague: they were not going to guarantee a whale shark sighting; in fact they hadn't seen one in over two weeks.

The day typically started with a dive on the north side of the island. Dive sites included Spotted Bay, Pinnacles, and Great Wall (the last two sites are within the Turtle Harbor Marine Reserve). We saw Hawksbill Turtles, large moray eels swimming freely during the day on three successive days at three different dive sites, barracudas, tiger groupers and countless numbers of Pederson Cleaning Shrimp stations with, and without, customers.



A spotted eagle ray cruises by, a reminder to look up from the reef, out into the deep, from time to time!  
Photo by Kelly Thiemann

During the surface interval we would come back to the south side of the island. Once we rounded Pumpkin Hill on the east end, we would head out to the open ocean between Utila and mainland Honduras and start to look for whale sharks. On Wednesday the search finally paid off, as a number of boats were clustered on the horizon. Divers started to put on their skins, mask, snorkel and fins. Captain Wagner and divemaster Raul kept a sharp lookout. Karen and I spotted a set of fins at the surface and alerted Wagner, but that turned out to be just a shark. Then we spotted a boiling, roiling mass of fish jumping at the surface, and we knew we were close.

Captain Wagner shouted to line up on the starboard side and when he said "go," we were to jump in. We lined up. I could see a dark outline right next to the boat. I heard "go;" I jumped and was face-to-face with a whale shark just four feet away. The whale shark quickly started to dive. As its dorsal fin went below me, I thought "you can turn and follow it." Of course, I had taken off my snorkel and had to come up for air. I watched as the tail moved further away. I couldn't swim fast enough, and the white polka dots were fading into the distance.

Wagner got us all back on board. We were going to try and find it again. All of us were very excited to have seen the whale shark and to have been that close. Karen had taken a video clip with her camera along with some stills. We lined up again; again I heard "go" -- this time I was on the wrong side of the boat! All I could see were polka dots in the distance. I watched admiringly as Romina (my Nitrox dive instructor and the resort manager) swam after the whale shark with her camera to get a picture. It was nice to see that after three years of living on the island and seeing countless numbers of whale sharks, she still had enthusiasm for photographing them.

During the next dive I think Karen was still thinking about the whale shark as she became known as the "lost diver." She claims she was taking a quick picture of a lizardfish, looked up, but we had disappeared into the murkiness of 20' visibility.

East End dive sites include the Aquarium, Black Hills, Ted's Point and Airport Caves. Airport Caves is a series of caverns and swim-throughs that are so full of glassy sweepers that it was impossible to see the sides of the cavern. Ted's Point has a small wreck at 80' that is home to a large tiger grouper, and the reef above has a school of large dogfish groupers. South-side dive sites include Black Coral Wall, Silver Gardens and Little Bight. I created great excitement among the boat crew when I said that I had seen a Mola Mola (Sunfish) in about ten feet of water just off of the reef in front of Laguna Beach -- this was a rare sighting! Karen was absorbed taking lobster pictures so, no photo. A seahorse, a spotted eagle ray and an octopus were also sighted on the South side.



An Utila sunset, enjoyed from the private dock behind our bungalow

Photo by Kelly Thiemann

Lesbians make great dive buddies, usually arriving with at least two of everything (except me, apparently) – a backup dive computer, backup lights for the night dive and extra hair ties for fastening assorted items. Some even arrive with their own brown rice just to make sure they have something to eat. The food was great, even according to Macrobiotic Vegan standards. At breakfast, we were serenaded by a CD of popular music played on the Andean Pan Flute. Our favorite was the “Theme from Titanic” each morning as we headed out to the boat. We heard it again in the San Pedro Sula Airport as we were heading home. Were they trying to tell us something?

While town was only a 5-minute boat ride away, we never felt the need to join civilization. The resort was lovely, and all the staff were wonderful. We had our own cabin on the water where we could watch the sun rise at our front door and the sun set out back over the mangrove lagoon. Ann received her PADI certification as a Scuba Diver (down to 40’ with a divemaster). I am now Nitrox certified, and Karen has over 1,000 pictures to edit. Oh, how I miss watching the heat lightning storms over the mainland from our King-sized bed at 3am!



A large feeding octopus, Kelly's find of the night dive  
Photo by Karen Doby

Postscript – Raul and his fiancée Kim (also a dive instructor) are operating the new Bay Island Aggressor boat that is based out of Utila. The boat franchise is owned by the same partners who own Laguna Beach Resort. So if you don't like sand, sand flies and mosquitoes and still want to dive in Utila, this is your best bet, but you probably won't be hearing the “Theme from Titanic” on Andean Pan Flutes.

## Northern California Rainbow Divers Wakatobi Dive Resort

July 28 – August 4, 2006

7-day Land Package  
Divers US\$1,940--\$2,280

*NCRD members receive a 5% discount*

The Northern California Rainbow Divers present the ultimate destination in dive travel adventure, the incredible Wakatobi Dive Resort. The warm waters of this Indonesian paradise are known for pristine reefs and exotic biological diversity, home to countless numbers of beautiful, rare and unusual marine animals, many found only in Indonesian waters, including the amazingly tiny pygmy seahorse, leaf fish, and the blue-ringed octopus! With visibility up to 240’ and water and air temperatures of 77-80°F, this trip is certain to hail amongst your most memorable diving experiences.



Mimic Octopus



Ribbon Eel



Cuttlefish



Frogfish

Our adventure begins when a private jet (included in trip price) whisks us from the magical land of Bali to the Tukang Besi archipelago of southern Sulawesi. Here, your bungalow sits only a few steps from the beach and the unbelievably diverse house reef. You'll enjoy three boat dives a day, up to 7 beach dives per day (virtually unlimited), dive guide services, three delicious meals prepared fresh daily by the resort's Balinese-trained chefs, as well as the unforgettable company of fun-loving, safety-minded lesbian and gay divers. In addition, you'll have the opportunity to savor local culture with a visit to a nearby traditional village.

Space is limited, and the trip is filling fast. This isn't one you'll want to miss, so don't delay; sign up online today! Checks and credit cards (via PayPal) are accepted. Check out the easy payment plan on the NCRD website!



**Reservations:** [http://www.rainbowdivers.org/trips\\_wakatobi.html](http://www.rainbowdivers.org/trips_wakatobi.html)

*All Photos © Wakatobi Resort. Used with permission.*

## Membership Update: We Want You!

by Jack Johnson, Membership Director

Hi everyone!

We've made some great strides in our efforts to continue delivering value to our club members through cool trips, content-rich meetings, rich and meaningful communications like this newsletter and the buddy list, and much more.

Over the past year, we've seen a lot of people fall off our membership list, but many more new ones are arriving. Our biggest recruitment effort every year is the San Francisco Pride festival. We get approximately 60 people signing up for more information, and several more sign up on the spot. It's amazing how many divers there actually are out there who just

don't have a group to dive with at their leisure.

Our current membership roster has approximately 60 paid members. This is actually down quite a bit from previous years, which has been over 100. We've actually done more to maintain and recruit members this year than in the past, as well as attempt to enhance the value of the club to members. I encourage you to help us keep our club and membership strong by offering any ideas that you have to make the club more interesting, exciting and valuable to everyone. If you have questions or ideas, please send them to me: [membership@rainbowdivers.org](mailto:membership@rainbowdivers.org)

## Calendar

- November 3-7  
Diving in the Southern Channel Islands  
Vision Liveaboard
- November 12  
Diving at Pt. Lobos
- November 17  
General Meeting
- December 10  
Diving at Pt. Lobos
- December TBA  
Holiday Party
- July 28–August 4  
Diving at Wakatobi

## November Liveaboard

(Continued from page 1)

Santa Barbara Island has a huge sea lion rookery. These sleek and facile swimmers will come out and play with divers for the entire dive, zooming past, blowing bubbles, and reminding us that we are just clumsy visitors to their ocean home. Arch Reef, a huge arched swim-through, and the creepy Brittlestar Reef offer two very different but still very accessible dives for newer divers.

The Northern Channel Islands offer diving more like Monterey and the central coast: fields of anemones, wonderful kelp forests, different nudibranchs, swirls of rockfish, scallops, and beautiful invertebrate life. Bat rays, moray eels, urchins -- spotted during the day or at night -- make the many sites fascinating for repeated dives. There are giant white crabs, huge sheepshead, and even the rare black bass to spot and add to your list of "sure, I've seen that!"

These are great places for your first or your 100<sup>th</sup> night dive. The Vision arranges night dives as repeat visits to the afternoon's site. That means you'll already know the layout of the dive site before the lights go out, so you can spend more time relaxing and enjoying the marine environment's changing of the guard at dusk.

Boats like the Vision present a unique value for divers. You'd pay more than twice as much per diving day for a luxury liveaboard like the Nautilus Explorer or one of the Aggressor Fleet. Don't expect to get a private stateroom onboard, but you will find plenty of simple comforts like good food in a large comfortable galley, two hot fresh-water showers right on the spacious dive deck and two more private showers below decks. The boat also provides a dryer for damp towels and clothes, as well as a warm place next to the engine room to hang your wetsuit. The galley is water tolerant, so you can dash in wearing dive gear for a quick snack, to change camera batteries, or just grab a hot beverage.

Just about the only place you can't wear your wetsuit is below decks in the sleeping area. Truth Aquatics says their bunks can sleep up to 46 divers, but NCRD has limited the load to just 28 people. This way, the less desirable bunks can be used as storage space, and the dive deck never gets crowded. Each bunk is equipped with a privacy curtain, reading light, ventilation, blanket and pillow.

When people are not actually diving or sleeping, they spend most of their time in the galley. In addition to meals, you'll find non-stop snacks and drinks, comfortable corners to read or nap, AC power for laptops as well as a

small library and TV in the galley. Best of all, you'll find plenty of Rainbow Divers for conversation, camaraderie or card games.

If you have the energy after doing up to 5 dives a day or maybe wish to take an afternoon off from diving, there are ocean kayaks available onboard. In addition, some of the islands have options to hike around the park and explore on land.

The trip is only \$675. If you compare that to the cost of doing a dozen boat dives plus 4 days of food and lodging in Monterey, you'll find it's a bargain. Since most people carpool down, there's no airfare either, which makes it far less expensive than warm water diving. For more information on the boat, visit [www.truthaquatics.com](http://www.truthaquatics.com). For any other questions about the trip, email Peg Stone at [mjstone529@comcast.net](mailto:mjstone529@comcast.net).

## Diving For Life Breaks Record

by Nisa Donnelly

CURACAO — Diving for Life, the International Gay and Lesbian SCUBA Jamboree, broke both attendance and fundraising records this year, with 162 participants generating more than \$70,000 during the weeklong festival, September 10 through 17.

DFL turned Habitat Curacao into a LGBT village for the week. From the Tuesday night White Party with its elaborate costumes to by-the-pool relaxing to an opportunity to visit the island's world-class dive sites, DFL brought divers, snorkelers and sun-lovers together. This year, 35 NCRD members attended the event in this tiny island nation in the southern Caribbean. Only the Village Dive Club of New York topped NCRD in club participation.



NCRD's contingent at DFL 2005 in Curacao  
Photo © DFL. Used with permission.

Since 1999, more than \$40,000 has been distributed by DFL to NCRD-identified charities, among them Breast Cancer Action, the AIDS Emergency Fund, the Billy DeFrank LGBT Community Center, the Most Holy Redeemer AIDS Support Group, the Metropolitan Community Foundation, PAWS and the Deaf Gay and Lesbian Center. As in past years, the club will be asked to identify the LGBT organizations that will receive NCRD's share of this year's proceeds.

The anticipated \$70,000 raised by DFL 2005 is generated from a mix of activities and festival registration. This year, over \$7,100 was raised in a silent auction that featured donated trips and accommodations throughout the world, among them a week's stay at a

Victorian home in Napa donated by NCRD's Ann Bauman and Kelly Thiemann. Some \$16,000 was raised from the sale of raffle tickets. Although the final outcome of auction items has yet to be tallied, it is expected to be in excess of \$5,000.

Auction items included gear, trips, airfares and original art, including a print "The Zen of Monterey Diving" by NCRD member Sharon Ponder.

Steve Graham of NCRD, who served on the DFL board for a dozen years, stepped down this year. Kelly Thiemann was elected to fill the NCRD seat on the board and will be

one of the DFL organizers for 2006. One of the first challenges facing the 9-member DFL board will be the location of next year's event. The board is considering several options and will announce the 2006 location in the next few months.

DFL has evolved into a large, international diving festival with participants from throughout the United States, Europe and Australia. In addition to NCRD (35), other clubs represented were New York's Village Dive Club (39); Lambda Divers of Washington, D.C. (21); the Oak Lawn Ski and Scuba Club of Dallas (17); Ruby Red Flippers of Portland (11); Sea Squirts of North Carolina (8); San Diego Rainbow Scuba Club (6); GLUG of London and the Sydney Underwater Bushwalking Society (5 each); Seattle's Bottom Dwellers (3); and New England's Triangle Dive Club (1).

## New Column! Dear Dive Nerd



Ever had a dive-related question, but didn't know whom to ask? One of our long-time, seasoned divers and divemasters extraordinaire is now available to help! No question is too silly or difficult for our dive nerd. Give it a try! All questions may be sent to [DiveNerd@rainbowdivers.org](mailto:DiveNerd@rainbowdivers.org)

*Dear Dive Nerd,  
Why should I take your advice?*

Maybe you shouldn't! If something I write makes sense to you, try it. If I screw up, call me on it. My goal is just to get people thinking. (Thinking before diving is usually a good thing.) I'm certainly no Moses, carrying dive commandments down off a seamount! There's also usually more than one right way to do things. Don't just take my advice -- use it to figure out what works best for you, and then do that.

*Dear Dive Nerd,*

*The paint on my tank has been slowly chipping off over years of use. Should I try to repaint it, to help keep it from corroding on the outside?*

Check with the manufacturer or the tank's owner's manual before doing anything to the tank. A full scuba tank is under a tremendous amount of pressure. Often the metal has been heat-treated. You definitely don't want to use any kind of painting process that will bake the paint on, for fear of annealing and weakening the metal.

It's probably safest to just give them a fresh-water rinse after each dive if you want to limit corrosion.

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Visit us on the web at <http://www.rainbowdivers.org/>

### Club Policies

Board meetings are held once a month and are open to any member in good standing. If interested in attending, please contact any of the board members listed above for location. Membership dues are \$35/year, \$55/year for domestic partners at the same address, and \$20/year for a newsletter-only subscription (available to addresses more than 150 miles from San Francisco Bay Area). Advertising is available. Rates are \$7/month to club members for a business card-size non-changing ad. It is \$10/month for non-club members to advertise. If you are interested in advertising, please contact the editor. NCRD does not warrant, recommend or guarantee the products or services contained in advertisements in this newsletter. Club policy re money paid for club-sponsored dives: unless otherwise noted, all monies are non-refundable.

Northern California Rainbow Divers, Inc. is a California non-profit mutual benefit corporation.



Northern California Rainbow Divers  
584 Castro Street, #478  
San Francisco, CA. 94114

## General Meetings

**October 20**

**November 17**

### Location

SF LGBT Center,  
1800 Market Street, SF.  
@ Octavia

### Getting There

The Muni Metro lines J, K, L, M, N, the F streetcar, or Muni Bus lines 6, 7, 9, 10, 14, 21, 26, 47, 49, 66 and 71 all run within 5 blocks of the Center; many run within 1 block. Also, take BART to SF Civic Center, then transfer to Muni Metro or F lines.