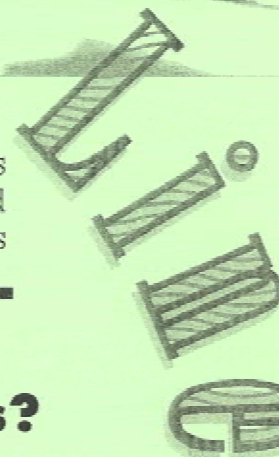


# The Buddy



The Newsletter of the Northern California Rainbow Divers  
A Scuba Diving Club for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and  
Transgendered Divers and Their Friends



## Attention Graphic Design Experts?

**N**CRD is currently seeking a volunteer interested in taking charge of design and production of the club's monthly newsletter. Our current layout guru, Anna Wan, will soon retire after three years of dedicated service.



### Desperately Seeking Used Slide Projector and Screen

*By Tom Martinchek*

**N**CRD is currently in the market for a used slide projector and screen, in good condition, for purchase at a reasonable price. By purchasing our own projector and screen, NCRD will relieve our program guests (who already give much in the way of their time and effort) from the additional burden of lugging heavy equipment to the monthly meeting.

If you want to clear your closets of clutter, and have a projector and/or screen that you haven't used in ages, please consider selling (or even donating!) them to the club. For additional information, please call Programs Director Tom Martinchek at (415) 626-9637.

In this challenging and fun position, you will transform raw articles, photos, advertisements, and other content into the NCRD newsletter (and you will be one of the first few member who will get all the news and gossip). The position offers a great opportunity to contribute to the club, and to learn and develop skills in layout and graphic design. Anna assures us that she will fully train the new person, and that the job is a breeze (really!).

The current layout is done in Quark Xpress and template will be provided for a easy start. All necessary software will be provided.

Concerned about a massive time commitment?? Have no fear: the position does not involve soliciting, writing, or editing of articles, all of which fall within the Newsletter Editor's responsibility.

If you have any interest at all in this position (or if you know someone who might be interested), please contact Tom Martinchek at (415) 626-9637.

### Essential Knots for Scuba Diving and Life

*By Tom Martinchek*

**C**an you tie a bowline in a hurry, without looking? Do you know why Ralph Nader called the square knot "unsafe at any speed"? Fine out at the next NCRD meeting as our own divemaster, amateur mountaineer and former boy scout, Ralph Wolf teaches us how to tie all the essential knots. This is a hands on class, and the exercise will be done in two person teams, sharing a 15 foot rope. Imagine the possibilities!

March 14, 2000  
Tuesday

7:00 PM

St. Francis  
Lutheran  
Church,  
San Francisco  
(Church and  
Market St.)

Club Meeting





## Diving For Life 2000

By Steve Graham

**D**ear Friends,

Once again, we invite you to join us for the Annual International Gay and Lesbian Scuba Jamboree. For this, our ninth Jamboree, we will be traveling

**ON TO CURACAO** - For 2000, we will be traveling to Curacao, Netherlands Antilles- 30 miles from Bonaire, the site of Jamborees 2 and 6. "Diving Freedom" is the slogan for Habitat Curacao, a PADI five star training and instructor development center with the same owners as Captain Don's Habitat in Bonaire. Pristine coral reef formations with over 400 species of fish, crustacean, sponges, anemones and invertebrates are available off the Habitat's pier and at over 100 dive sites in the area. Local marine biologists are predicting the spawning of these reefs while we are there and will join us for an educational presentation. The resort has three choices of rooms that will accommodate up to 152 people. All rooms are air-conditioned and have t.v.'s and coffeepots. They range from 4-person cottages to deluxe, ocean view doubles. Meals are served in the RumRunner, the resort's multi-terraced restaurant and bar. The Habitat's sandy beach and pool offer unlimited vistas of the Caribbean Sea. The resort offers free, daytime shuttle service to the town of Willemstad, noted for its shopping, restaurants, bistros, scenery, museums, casinos and clubs. The Jamboree will include a "Casino Night" in Willemstad and a DFL Talent show at the resort.

**LAND PACKAGE** - Diving for Life offers three choices of accommodations this year, all priced affordably. 10 two-bedroom (2 twins/1 queen) cottages are available at \$853 per person, 4 person occupancy. 16 double occupancy garden view rooms are available for \$975 per person, and 40 double occupancy ocean view rooms are available for \$1146 per person. Non-divers deduct \$100 from the price, and single supplements (available with the garden and ocean view units) cost an additional \$975 and \$1146.

### PACKAGE INCLUDES:

**Rooms:** seven nights accommodation (double occupancy) in air-conditioned rooms with kitchenette/refrigerator/t.v. All rooms will be assigned on a first-come-first served basis, and while every effort will be made to provide the room category desired, registrants will be asked their second and third choices in case their first choice is not available.

**Meals:** Starting the first Saturday dinner to the second Saturday breakfast, there will be three meals daily. Beverages are not included with lunch or dinner.

**Diving:** Six days of two-tank boat dives, unlimited shore diving, air/tanks/weights. **Entertainment:** Includes a welcome reception, Casino Night, BBQ Dinner, 70's Disco Party and the First Ever DFL Talent Show.

*Continues on Page 3*

## Northern California Rainbow Divers

### NCRD Board of Directors

Dive Planner • Paul Duhamel • 415/673-6146  
• DivePlanner@RainbowDivers.org

Treasurer • Peg Stone • 510/547-8215  
• Treasurer@RainbowDivers.org

Programs • Tom Martinchek • 415/626-9637  
• Programs@RainbowDivers.org

Newsletter Editor • Chris Hunrath • 510/659-0360  
• Editor@RainbowDivers.org

Membership • Ralph Wolf • 408/241-5423  
• Membership@RainbowDivers.org

Secretary • Lisa Newman • 408/249-9146  
• Secretary@RainbowDivers.org

### Newsletter Design & Production

Anna Wan • 415/252-7103 • anna@zestop.com

### Other Departments

Liaison: Diving for Life • Steve Graham  
• 415/863-5314 • DFL@RainbowDivers.org

Club WebMaster • Terry Gauchat  
• 415/437-0838 • webslave@RainbowDivers.org

### Club Policies

Board meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month. These meetings are open to any member in good standing. If you are interested in attending these meetings, please call any of the board members listed above for location. Membership dues are \$35/year, \$55/yr for domestic partners at the same address, and \$20/yr for newsletter only subscription (available to addresses more than 150 miles from San Francisco Bay Area). Advertising is available. Rates \$7/month to club members to have a business card size non-changing ad. It is \$10/month for non-club members to advertise. If you are interested in advertising please call 415-864-7775. Club policy regarding money paid for club sponsored dives: Unless otherwise noted, all monies are non-refundable.

NCRD does not warrant, recommend or guarantee the products or services contained in advertisements in this newsletter.

### Club mail or inquiries:

NCRD • 584 Castro Street, #478  
San Francisco • CA 94114

### Web Site:

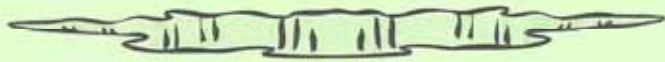
[www.rainbowdivers.org](http://www.rainbowdivers.org)



## NCRD April 8 Pt. Lobos Dives

By Paul Duhamel

Our next club organized shore dives at Pt. Lobos State Park for 2000 will take place Saturday, April 8th at Whalers Cove. Enjoy a day of relaxed diving (the park opens at 9:00 a.m.) and see the incredible marine life in this protected California reserve environment. A mere \$5.00 covers the cost of Pt. Lobos reservations and bottled water. Come join us for a day of easy entry/exit shore diving at Whalers Cove. The group is limited to 12 divers, so reserve your spot by sending a check for \$5.00 to Paul Duhamel (1850 Sacramento Street, No. 502, San Francisco, CA 94109).



## Diving For Life 2000

*Continued from Page 2*

Please read the letter from "empresario" Steve Sangesl and about sharing your talent at the Jamboree).

**Gratuities:** for restaurant staff are included in the package price. Note: gratuities for the dive operation and other hotel staff are not included in the price of the land package. **Airport Transfers:** Transfers to and from the airport are included in the land package.

**DEPOSIT AND PAYMENT SCHEDULE:** A deposit of \$300 by check, money order or credit card authorization must accompany your registration form. \$150 of the deposit is refundable until May 1, 2000. None of the \$300 deposit is refundable after May 1, 2000. The balance of payment is due by June 2, 2000. For those canceling after June 2, 2000, Diving for Life will replace them with the next person on the waiting list or, absent a waiting list, the person canceling may provide a replacement. Only in the event of a replacement found will a refund be made. In each instance where a credit card payment is not approved for any reason, a surcharge of \$25 will be charged.

**AIRLINE INFORMATION:** Once again, DFL is offering Maduro Fantaseas as our airline-booking agent. We have booked a block of group rate seats to Curacao from various points of departure in the United States. Call (800) 327-6709 or email [info@maduro.com](mailto:info@maduro.com) for more information on your flight, and ask for Howard and tell him you will be attending the 2000 Diving for Life Scuba Jamboree in Curacao. A Jamboree Organizer will serve as a liaison with Maduro to navigate any service problems. Please report any problems to us at [DFL@divingforlife.org](mailto:DFL@divingforlife.org) or (415) 978-9262.

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### MARCH 2000

**11** (Saturday) Pt. Lobos Shore Dives: See the newsletter article for details. Call or e-mail Paul Duhamel with questions at (415) 673-6146 ([RamsesRa@aol.com](mailto:RamsesRa@aol.com)).

**25** (Saturday) Cypress Sea Boat Dives: First NCRD charter of 2000. Enjoy a 2-tank boat dive on Monterey Bay. Excellent opportunity to gain boat diving experience and/or get prepped for the April Vision trip! Call or e-mail Paul Duhamel with questions at (415) 673-6146 ([RamsesRa@aol.com](mailto:RamsesRa@aol.com)).

### APRIL

**8** (Saturday) Pt. Lobos Shore Dives: See the newsletter article for details. Call or e-mail Paul Duhamel with questions at (415) 673-6146 ([RamsesRa@aol.com](mailto:RamsesRa@aol.com)).

**22-24** (Saturday - Monday: Easter Weekend) Northern Channel Islands Liveaboard on the Vision. Deposits accepted at the January 11th club meeting. See newsletter article for details. Call or e-mail Gary Morgret (415) 863-5314 ([gmorgret@planetaria.net](mailto:gmorgret@planetaria.net)) or Peg Stone (510) 547-8215 ([pstone@csgadvisors.com](mailto:pstone@csgadvisors.com)) with questions.



## Gay Dive Specialists

Join our gay/lesbian groups!

Bonaire—Lions Dive, For Women Only, Oct. 30-Nov. 6, 1999

Belize—Wind Dancer, Nov. 20-27, 1999  
and Dec. 25, 1999-Jan. 1, 2000

Truk Lagoon—Truk Aggressor II, Mar. 19-26, 2000

Palau—Sun Dancer II, Mar. 29-Apr. 8, 2000

Venezuela—Antares Dancer, April 1-8, 2000

Papua New Guinea—febrina, Aug. 20-28, 2000

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(858) 210-1900

**Call Toll-Free 1-800-669-0310**

Email: [UnderseaX@aol.com](mailto:UnderseaX@aol.com) [www.underseax.com](http://www.underseax.com)





## Diving For Life 2000

*Continued from Page 3*

DIVING FOR LIFE is incorporated as a not-for-profit, 501 (c)(3) organization with a mission to raise funds through the Annual International Gay and Lesbian Scuba Jamboree for gay men's and lesbians' health services in communities where participating gay and lesbian scuba clubs are located. DFL has an all-volunteer board of directors who derive no income or salaries from the Jamboree. Over the past few years, 90% of the money raised has been donated to local gay and lesbian health charities. Each club with participating members in the Jamboree receives a proportionate share of the funds. For each of the last two years, Diving for Life raised and distributed \$46,000. To date, the total amount of money raised by Diving for Life has exceeded \$183,000.

**YOU SHOULD ALSO KNOW:** Club Banners: Can be displayed on the resort property and are encouraged. Tax Deductions: Our accountant tells us that IRS will not accept any deductions on your personal taxes for any payment for a non-profit event which costs you less than the retail rate. Please consult your own accountant for tax advice. Insurance: DFL

strongly recommends each participant obtain diver's medical insurance through either Divers Alert Network or another agency offering coverage. To sign up with DAN+ call (800) 446-2671. DFL also recommends each participant obtain trip insurance. Contact your local American Automobile Association for trip insurance information. Confirmation

**Notice:** Within three weeks of receiving your deposit, DFL will send you a confirmation, which will include your balance due and payment schedule. You are responsible for meeting this payment schedule.

Diving for Life's Board of Trustees wishes to thank the club leaders, the participants and the lesbian and gay scuba community for their support in making this event possible. If there are any questions not answered here, call us at (415) 978-9262 or email: [DFL@divingforlife.org](mailto:DFL@divingforlife.org).

Looking forward to seeing you in Curacao

Mike Wilson  
Board of Trustees  
Jamboree Organizer

Steve Graham  
Treasurer, DFL  
Jamboree Organizer



Northern California Rainbow Divers  
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