

# Oceanids News



**UC SAN DIEGO OCEANIDS BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**

**VOL. LXII No. 1**

**October/November 2024**

*SAVE THE DATE !!!*

OCTOBER 26, 2024

*FOR*

*OCEANIDS FALL BRUNCH*



please check your email for the invitation



# OCEANIDS CREW 2022-2023

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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“Oceanid of the Year” /Maxine White Award

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(Membership, directory updates)

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Historian; TBD

Refreshment Reminder: MaryHanson.....858-456-1304

Sunshine Committee: Diana Vines.....858 459 8248

SDIS: Dorothy Parker.....858 453-6351

BOARD MEETINGS: first Thursday every month

Call president for location. Coffee and refreshments: 9:30 am, meeting starts at 10 am

OCEANIDS NEWS is the newsletter of Oceanids, a UCSD campus organization. Published bi-monthly except July, August & September. Letters to the Editor and articles of interest to UCSD are invited and greatly appreciated.

Address all submissions to: UC San Diego Oceanids  
c/o ISEO - Student Center B  
9500 Gilman Drive #0018  
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E-MAIL: oceanids@ucsd.edu and also email: enrightroswitha@gmail.com and mwoonew@gmail.com

OCEANIDS ONLINE: <http://ccom.ucsd.edu/~oceanids/>



COFFEE IN HAND, SUPPLIES AT THE READY,  
ALIGE SETTLES IN, WAITING FOR THE  
FIRST TELEMARKETER TO CALL.



### President's Message

In the last newsletter I promised to tell you about my other encounter with real crime. This happened in Rio de Janeiro in 1996.

I took a Spring Quarter sabbatical at the University of Campinas (50 miles north of Sao Paulo), where I had a Brazilian friend who had received his

PhD at MIT. Of course, it was Fall in the southern hemisphere.

I flew from San Diego to Buenos Aires, spent a week there, then took the ferry to Montevideo, Uruguay. After 3 days in Montevideo, I took an overnight Brazilian bus to Porto Alegre in the state of Rio Grande do Sul in Brazil. By the way, the train system in Brazil is not very good, but the long distance bus system is outstanding, especially, the express buses (Executivo). I prefer to travel on the ground rather than by air as I like to see the countryside.

I looked around Porto Alegre and got some Brazilian money (real, pl. reais). The 3 southern states of Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul, Santa Catarina, and Parana') were settled by Germans and still much of the population is of German descent. Until WWII there were German schools, i.e., the language in the schools was German. However, during WWII German was banned in schools in Brazil. By the way, my Brazilian friend in Campinas is of  $\frac{3}{4}$  German and  $\frac{1}{4}$  Portuguese descent.

Next I took a bus to Foz do Iguacu, 637 kilometers. The Iguassu Falls are magnificent. I took an overnight bus from Foz to Campinas, where I then spent 2 months.

On June 1 (equivalent to December 1; sunset was at 5pm) I travelled to Sao Paulo for a few days, then took the bus to Rio, where I spent 7 nights.

My Brazilian friend recommended that I not stay in Copacabana as it is too dangerous, but in Ipanema, which I did. The next evening at 8pm I headed to a restaurant that I had noticed on the beachfront. (In Brazil the restaurants open at 8pm and the main dinnertime is 11pm—too late for me.)

The rules in the guide books for Rio state: (1) Never carry your passport, only a xerox copy, as an American passport is worth \$3000 (in 1996) on the black market). (2) Never carry your wallet, only the cash that you will need right away. (3) Never go anywhere in Rio by yourself. I obeyed (1) and (2). I had a xerox copy of my passport and 30 Brazilian reais in a money belt around my waist. But I disobeyed (3).

As I was walking to the restaurant and was about 2 blocks from my hotel, I heard footsteps running behind me. I tensed up, but then I told myself that I was being ridiculous. Then a guy grabbed me from behind, encircling my arms, lifted me off the ground and turned me 90 degrees. His companion pointed a gun down against my forehead; it was pointed down because he was so tall. They were about 6' 4" and about 25 years old. One of them demanded my wallet; I could understand the Portuguese, but the connection between my brain and my mouth wasn't working. When I said nothing, the guy holding me threw me to the ground. I automatically put my right hand out to brace the fall and injured it. It was a year before I could reach the shift key without pain. They searched my pockets and one of them said "livro" and they ran off. He was referring to the small Portuguese-English dictionary that I had in my pocket. I was very, very lucky: (1) They were older, experienced robbers who had probably done this many times before, so they didn't shoot me when they didn't get what they wanted. Most of the murders in Rio of tourists are because, when things don't go right, the teenagers panic and shoot. (2) They didn't feel the money belt; if they had, they would have tried to rip it off me, which would have been difficult to do and I would have been more seriously injured. (3) They didn't get anything, except my peace of mind.

I was shaken and instead of heading on to the restaurant I went back to the hotel. At the reception I told the manager what happened. He said that I should only walk on this street, never on that street. I said that I wished that I had been told that when I checked in the day before. The rest of the week I toured all over Rio in the daytime, but at night I only went out if someone from the Federal University of Rio was with me. I asked my friend at the Federal University if he thought the gun was loaded. He said, "In Rio the guns are always loaded."

After a week in Rio, I took the bus to Sao Joao Dei Rei then to Ouro Preto, and to Belo Horizonte. I flew from there back to the US. When I left Campinas, I had decided to come to Brazil again for my next sabbatical. However, the incident in Rio greatly dampened my enthusiasm. Hence, on my next sabbatical I went again to Europe instead.

**Our Fall Luncheon will be on Saturday, October 26. An invitation will be coming per email later. I hope to see you there.**

**Jim Bunch**

## OCEANIDS GALLERY OF ARTS AND CRAFTS

October 2024

In this issue, Oceanids Gallery of Arts and Crafts exhibits ceramic work collected, not created, by Jan Ouren, Oceanids Treasurer. It's a collection that remarkably spans some 1000+ years.

She writes: In the 1960s, I was Introduced to the potter's wheel at the University of Arizona, literally surrounded by Indian pottery shards in the desert. The first pottery I ever bought was from an Indian arts dealer in Wickenburg, Arizona. The dealer, an archaeologist, dug in Northwestern Mexico and New Mexico in the 1940's when it was still legal.

This Casas Grandes coiled jar from Northwestern Mexico is remarkable for its exquisite artistry, shape, polychrome geometric decoration and age-- probably 1150 to 1350 AD. Its function is unknown, perhaps funerary, decorative or as a valuable trade good.



In the 60s and 70s, California and European potters were leaders in mid-century design. This meant clean lines, organic shapes and minimal decoration but with an emphasis on texture. The vase shown below was bought in the early 70s in a Los Angeles antique store and is signed "Heath" from the Edith Heath Ceramic Studios, located in California. It is most likely from a mold, porcelain, pink-glazed with a brown band around the top and bottom and brown spatter on its surface. Very mid-century.

Over the next 40 years I accumulated many ceramic pieces, usually vases and the occasional plate, Italian mid-century works, Japanese vases and German brutalist pottery. Here's is a German piece with a lava-like surface typical of the surface roughness of brutalism. The Geisel Library by architect William Pereira is a fine example of brutalism.



My latest addition is a Chinese slab-constructed vase. Modern, simple, tall and good looking. Found in an Arroyo Grande antique store this summer.

In closing, let me encourage you to exhibit your arts and crafts in Oceanids' virtual gallery, be they created or curated by you! If interested, please email me, [jouren@san.rr.com](mailto:jouren@san.rr.com).

Maryruth Cox died August 4 around dawn, in her home where she could see the hummingbirds outside her window, with three of her children beside her. She was 93 years old. Maryruth spent her adult life loving this land - she fought to get the unique Torrey Pines habitat protected - and her poetry, photography and writing centered on her delight at the beauty of nature around her. She had a scientist's training to study the environment with an artist's appreciation for its beauty. Maryruth has been active with Oceanids for many years. We will remember her for her poetry and also for her tireless work for the kitchen exchange.



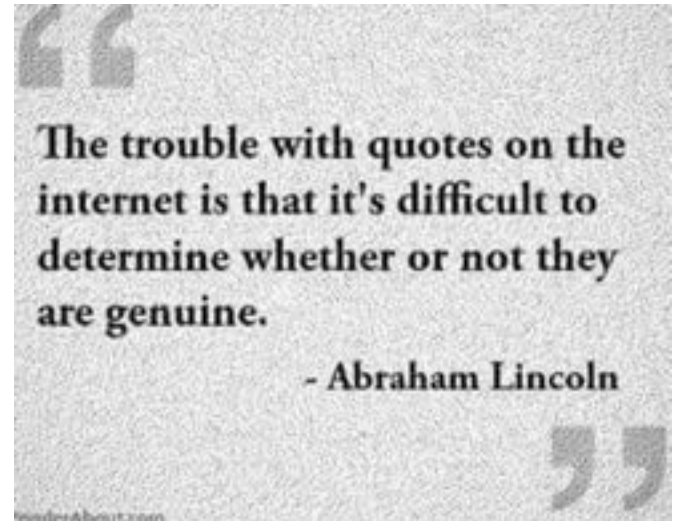
## SOUNDING BOARD

The Oceanids Board is looking for a new host for Sounding Board starting with the November 7, 2024 lecture. Job responsibilities include identifying interesting and engaging speakers, inviting them to speak, preparing the announcements and distributing them to the Oceanids newsletter, website and listserv, introducing the speaker, fielding questions and sending a thank you email, recording the meeting and sending the file to be uploaded to the Oceanids YouTube channel. A complete job description is available.

Sounding Board is an important lecture series with a history going back to at least the 1980's, when it was a brown bag lunch, and then it moved to the Faculty Club. Since the pandemic, it has been presented by zoom.

This position can be handled by one person, or the responsibilities split between two people.

If you are interested in volunteering for this rewarding position, please contact Oceanids President Jim Bunch [jbunch@ucsd.edu](mailto:jbunch@ucsd.edu), Judy Vacquier [jvacq@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jvacq@sbcglobal.net) or Barbara Bank [bbank@ucsd.edu](mailto:bbank@ucsd.edu).



## OCEANIDS' INTEREST GROUPS

are the backbone of our Oceanids organization. They are here to meet the many varied needs of UCSD families, especially those new to the UCSD campus and the community. If you don't find an activity you would like to participate in, please contact Interest Group Coordinator Judy Vacquier (858) 361-0418 or [jvacq@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jvacq@sbcglobal.net). If five or more Oceanids wish to start a new group, please let her know so we can inform other members. All we ask is that your members be Oceanids. If you are not yet a member of Oceanids, please consider joining us by contacting Mary Cutchin, 858-459-8074, [marycutchin@yahoo.com](mailto:marycutchin@yahoo.com) or by submitting the application form in this issue. Since the newsletter is posted on the Oceanids website we will, for security reasons, not publish addresses (with occasional exceptions). Please call the contact for the necessary information.

If you meet in person the chair has to fill out the FAS Event Liability Form and mail it to Beate Menzel [jrbmlmenzel@cox.net](mailto:jrbmlmenzel@cox.net)

### BIRDING GROUP

Liz Winant (858) 231 1496, [lizwinant@gmail.com](mailto:lizwinant@gmail.com)

We meet on the 2nd Monday of the month during the academic year. Avisets, the Oceanids birding group will resume meeting after a summer break, on October 9 at San Elijo Lagoon visitor center at 8:30 am. The meeting location for November is TBA.

**Next outings:** October 9 and November 13.

### BOOK GROUP

Contact: *janet goff*  
<[janetrgoff@hotmail.com](mailto:janetrgoff@hotmail.com), Liz Winant [lizwinant@gmail.com](mailto:lizwinant@gmail.com)

We meet on the second Tuesday morning of every month at 9:30 AM for chatting and 10 AM for review. Everyone is welcome; we are happy to greet new members who like to read a variety of fiction and non-fiction and who value good writing and a lively discussion. Please join us. We would love to have you in our jolly little group. Our gatherings consist of 6 or 7 or 8 of us and there's always room for more. Please be one of them.

Date / "Title" by Author / Host / Reviewer

**OCT 8** "The Covenant of Water" Abraham Verghese /  
TBA / Liz Winant

**NOV 12** "Outline" by Rachel Cusk / TBA / Sue Corringham

### BOOGIE BOARDING BUDDIES

Contact: Liz Fong Wills [ludditelizfong@gmail.com](mailto:ludditelizfong@gmail.com)

We meet every Saturday at 9:30 am and/or Sunday at 10:30 am all year round when the ocean water temperature at La Jolla Shores is 55 degrees F. or more. However, attendance is when you can make it. You must bring your own boogie board plus wetsuit if you feel the need for one. Depending upon how many come, I may or may not have space in the driveway. Call (232-7545) before Thursday to let me know if you want to join us so that I can confirm that there are no riptides or other unpleasant problems on the day we go.

Contacts:

### CAFE ESPAÑOL

Contacts: Alicia 858 353-3878  
353-3878; Vicky Lindblade [vlindblade@mac.com](mailto:vlindblade@mac.com) or (858)-452 1739  
This conversation group is designed for fluent Spanish speakers who wish to keep up their Spanish and learn new vocabulary. We meet the second Thursday of the month at 2 p.m. in person and occasionally the 4th Thursday by zoom from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. One hour of conversation and one hour of reading aloud and group discussion. Call chair for more information.

### CAFÉ FRANÇAIS

Contacts: Anne-France Saillot,  
[af.saillot@gmail.com](mailto:af.saillot@gmail.com)  
We still meet every 2nd Wednesday of the month starting October, to the exception of this September as we say our goodbyes to one of our long time members who is moving out of state. We continue to talk about general societal topics which create lively debates! We take every opportunity to check on grammar rules and vocabulary. We meet from 12:00 to 3:00.  
**Meeting: October 9 and November 13.**

### CELLPHONE PHOTOGRAPHY

Contact: Kim  
*Signoret-Paar*, [kspaar@outlook.com](mailto:kspaar@outlook.com)  
The group meets on Zoom on the second Thursday of each month at 10 am to noon for discussion/demonstration/instruction and sharing of our cellphone photographs. Activities, such as field trips, will be communicated to the group's email list. For more information, please contact Kim.  
**Next meetings: October 10 and November 14.**

### CINEMA SOIRÉE

Contact: Jim Bunch at [jbunch@ucsd.edu](mailto:jbunch@ucsd.edu)  
The group meets (in normal times) at a designated home on the second Sunday of each month (all year long) at 7:00pm for socializing; movie discussion starts at 7:30pm sharp. Light refreshments will be served. You will be contacted by e-mail about which movie to see and where )  
**Next meeting: October 13 and November 10.**

### DAY BRIDGE

Contact: Beate Menzel  
[jrbmlmenzel@cox.net](mailto:jrbmlmenzel@cox.net) or (619) 401-1557  
We meet the first and third Tuesdays of the month all year long at various members' homes. We start at 10am and usually end at or

before 3pm. Everyone brings her/his own lunch. The hostess will provide drinks. Call for information.

**Next meetings: October 1+15, November 5+19.**

## GERMAN KAFFEEKLATSCH

Contact: Roswitha Enright 858 459-7375 ([renright@ucsd.edu](mailto:renright@ucsd.edu))

This group is for beginners and experienced German speakers alike. Guaranteed no pressure. Just come on the 3rd Tuesday at 3pm and have a good time. Only German spoken. If you want to join, please ccontact Roswitha. TIME: 3 PM TO 4:30 PM.

**Next meetings: October 15 and November 19.**

## MOVEABLE FEAST II

Contact: Mary Cutchin

(858) 729 3888 or [marycutchin@yahoo.com](mailto:marycutchin@yahoo.com)

This group meets every couple of months for drinks at a member's house. From there we carpool to the restaurant.

Next dinner call Mary. Contact Mary for information and reservations.

## PIANO AND CHAMBER SOIRÉE

Contact: Judy

Vacquier (858) 361-0418 or [jvacq@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jvacq@sbcglobal.net)

The October Piano Soiree will meet on Sunday, October 27, 2024, at the home of Anita Weedmark, at 3:00 pm. The address will be sent to the members who RSVP. The November Piano Soiree will meet on Sunday, November 24 at 3 pm at the home of Sybille Muller and Heinz Kohler.. Please contact Judy Vacquier at [jvacq@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jvacq@sbcglobal.net) for directions.

**Next meetings: October 27 and November 24**

## TAPAS ON THURSDAY

Contact : Barbara Bank

[bbank@ucsd.edu](mailto:bbank@ucsd.edu)

The strength of our group is the warmth we share. If you wish to join us, please contact Barbara Bank ([bbank@ucsd.edu](mailto:bbank@ucsd.edu)) to be added to our mailing list. We meet on the third Thursday of the month, at member's homes. Everyone brings a tapa to share. It may be sweet or savory. We frequently choose a theme for that month's tapas and have a delightful time while sharing food and friendship.

**Next meeting is October 17 and November 21.**

## WEDNESDAY COFFEE

Contacts: Georgina

Sham, [gbsham@gmail.com](mailto:gbsham@gmail.com). Lynn Jahn, [lynnjahn@gmail.com](mailto:lynnjahn@gmail.com).

Come join our social group of Oceanids, newcomers, postdocs, students, and their children for refreshments and craft activities every Wednesday, 10am-12 noon. You'll make friends, learn strange, wonderful American customs. Please contact Georgina or Lynn for more information.

## WINE TASTING I + II

Contact: Alicia

Flores Meneses at [virginiacisne@yahoo.com](mailto:virginiacisne@yahoo.com) or 858-353 3878

We welcome the following new Oceanids

Members:

**Janet Ambrozek; Spouse - Bruce Kimmich; H:**  
858-272-2726; C: 619-991-7048 Email:  
[janet.ambrozek@gmail.com](mailto:janet.ambrozek@gmail.com)

**Marcia Bookstein; Spouse - Peter Winston; C:**  
858-232-7177 Email:  
[marciabookstein@gmail.com](mailto:marciabookstein@gmail.com)

**Ulrike Burgin; H: 858-459-3520; C: 858-731-6591**  
Email: [uliburgin@sbcglobal.net](mailto:uliburgin@sbcglobal.net)

**Mary MacFarlane; C: 575-770-5137; Email:**  
[taosdeposnew@gmail.com](mailto:taosdeposnew@gmail.com)





## SOUNDING BOARD

Sounding Board is a series of seven lectures during the academic year, the first Thursday of the month at 12 noon, sponsored by UC San Diego Oceanids. Oceanids, faculty, and friends meet on Zoom and listen to fascinating speakers. Contact Judy Vacquier (jvacq@sbcglobal.net) for more information for this lecture and if you are interested in chairing this Oceanids activity

### "Propositions on the November 2024 Ballot Explained"

Come and hear the pros and cons of the propositions on the November ballot. This illuminating talk by our own Oceanid Mary Hanson, representing the League of Women Voters, is always popular every election cycle. Please join us by Zoom. You can enter the waiting room starting at 11:45. Participants will be let in starting at noon. The talk will begin at 12:10 pm. It will be recorded and posted on the Oceanids YouTube channel.

**Thursday, October 3**

Zoom link:



<https://ucsd.zoom.us/j/2392094686?omn=96290654232>

Meeting ID: 239 209 4686

Mary Schantz Hanson was born and raised in small town Iowa, and received her B.A. in French and Russian from the University of Iowa and an M.A.T degree from Oberlin College in French and Education. She moved to California in 1970, first to Palo Alto and then to San Diego. She taught French in the Bay Area, then later at Santana High School accompanying students on six trips to France, where she continues to travel as often as possible. Mary has been active in the League of Women Voters, serving as LWVSD president from 1983 to 1985. In addition to serving on the Speakers' Bureau, she is also focused on environmental issues and climate change. She has served as Board Secretary for the La Jolla Music Society and is currently on the board of Town & Gown. Mary was president of UCSD Oceanids from 2013 to 2015 and is currently the Recording Secretary.

**A trip I do not have to take again** by Roswitha Enright

For a while now I have had this idea that I would like to see a particular part of North America. And when a travel organization which I have used before offered a trip to Labrador and Newfoundland my sister and I decided to finally do it. We had used the organization many times before and had always been extremely satisfied. In their brochure we were promised wild coasts, whales, moose and caribou. Just what we wanted. But one should be a bit more careful and get further information.

When, after a long flight we finally reached the small town of St. John's which is the capital of the province we realized that there were 30 of us. That in itself is not a problem except that it meant we had to use a big bus, which could actually transport 50 passengers. That



followed consisted of a lot of driving interrupted by short sightseings and mealtimes which had to be kept promptly because the next group of travelers was already waiting. It seemed to us that the area does not have that much to show for it other than beautiful nature of which we did not see very much because we had to stay on the main roads. Cod fishery had been an important part of the economy in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. European countries sent their fisherman to Newfoundland for the summer and ordered them back the rest of the year. The catch had to be sold to local merchants for not much more than pay for the necessary supplies for the stay. When that was finished because of overfishing and the seal hunters became obsolete there

meant we had to stay on main roads along the coast and did not see any of the inner parts of this rather wild country. Our trip leader was a nice woman from the area who was obviously very proud of her home land and its people.

The days that

was not much which could sustain the people. Agriculture was difficult because of the climate. And so – it seemed to us -- after years of hardship they had shifted to tourism as the major source of income. Which is fine if one wants to see the restored the late-19<sup>th</sup> century house of a physician, the elaborate exhibition of a single whale skeleton, yet another oldish lighthouse or the not very interesting procedures of making wine out of berries. And everywhere, everywhere were large gift shops with the same handicrafts. Interesting was geological lecture and a rebuilt Viking village with people dressed up and telling us about their lives in the time of the Vikings.

Of the thousands of moose who live in the area we did not see a single one. How could we with the bus driving 50 miles an hour on the main roads. On the last day we saw a herd of caribou in the distance but there was no time to get closer because we had to be someplace else. For the whale watching we had to dress up in elaborate floating suits (20 minutes) only to not be able to see whales in the half hour which was allotted. But it was probably too early for the whales who had just started to migrate north from warmer waters in June.

All that and more I could have found out before I booked the trip. I could have found out the number of participants, the size of the bus, probably even the route we were going to take. I relied too much on my experience of the other trips with the same organization which had been so perfect. But now we know better.

## OCTOBER 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
		Day Bridge	Wednesday Coffee	Board Mtg Sounding Board		
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
		Book Group zoom	Wednesday Coffee Cafe Francais	Cafe Espanol Cellphone Photography		
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
Cinema soiree zoom	Birding	Day Bridge German	Wed. Coffee	Tapas		
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	23	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
			Wed. Coffee			Fall Brunch
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>		
Piano Soiree						

## NOVEMBER 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
		Day Bridge	Wednesday Coffee	Board Meeting		
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
Cinema Soiree zoom	Birding	Book Group zoom	Wednesday Coffee Cafe Francais	Cafe Espanol Cellphone Photography		
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
		Day Bridge German		Tapas		
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>

Piano Soiree

# **WELCOME NEWCOMERS!**

**UC San Diego Oceanids  
c/o ISEO - Student Center B  
9500 Gilman Drive # 0018  
La Jolla, CA 92093-0018**

**OCEANIDS IS AN OFFICIAL SUPPORT GROUP OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO, PROMOTING FRIENDSHIP AND SHARED INTERESTS, OPEN TO ALL WHO ARE INTERESTED IN THE SUCCESS AND WELFARE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA.**