



*Swami's*  
SURFING • ASSOCIATION

Newsletter  
May 2005



Ty Ponder - Getting Some Action in the Maldives  
Video Frame Grab Supplied by Ty

Come to the Surf Club Meeting...  
eat pizza, win fabulous prizes...  
Tuesday May 10th 7:00 p.m



Tom, As Seen on Surfshot.com

### Presidents letter by Tom English

I hope everyone is getting plenty of time in the water because the surf has been good for most of last month. The southern hemisphere has fired up the wave generating machine for our south facing beaches. Light crowds and clean waves, what more can you ask for? Warm water, yes, it's on the way.

I'd like to thank Linda Roger and John Reinhardt for helping to improve the fractured, and dysfunctional condition of The Coalition of Surf Clubs. Wow, that was a mouthful.

Yesterday (April 30), The Friends of Cardiff Reef, with the help of many members of The Swami's Surfing Association participated in a Beach Clean Up at Cardiff Reef. The Park Ranger said that "this was the best Beach clean up he has ever seen in his 25 years of service". A giant dumpster was filled with a winters worth of debris that settled on the beach. Swami's members included Pat McGriff, Calvin and Debbie Tom, Glen Stewart, Stuart Graurer, Jeanette Prince, Matt Loo, Otis and many others. Jerry Anderson worked the grill all morning, serving up a delicious combination of pancakes, bacon, sausages, and chorizo. Thanks to all who participated.

The Santa Cruz Contest is Memorial Day weekend. Come to the meeting on Tuesday to work on the details of the trip. Call Otis if you want to surf in the event.

Aloha,

Tom English  
President, Swamis Surfing Association



Spring Cleaning at Cardiff State Beach  
Photos by Tom English and Matt Loo





Mike Emerson, About to Regret Eating Otis's Cooking  
Photo by Matt

## Letter From the Editor

This month we have a wonderfully crafted article by Ty Ponder about his recent trip to the Maldives in the Indian Ocean.

On April 30, Rocco and the Cardiff Crew organized a huge beach cleanup and potluck breakfast. This is always a great event that brings the Cardiff surfing community together to do something positive that benefits ALL the beach-goers at Cardiff.

The following day (May 1), the 4th Annual Fish Fry was held at Oceanside Jetty. This event was primarily spearheaded by Sean Mattison (from Surf Ride) with help from SSA member, and Surfer Magazine Editor, Scott Bass. I attended the event and expressed a few thoughts about it here in the article titled "School of Fish".

Contest season is starting to rev up, so come to the next meeting, or contact our contest coordinator (Otis) if you want to find out what's going on. The "Competition Corner" was not updated this month because Otis was in Hawaii.

Once again, I'd like to invite anyone in the club to submit topics for publication in this newsletter.

## Getting Away to the Maldives

By Ty Ponder

The Maldives are a chain of about 1200 islands in the Northern Indian Ocean South of Sri Lanka and just north of the equator. It is a grueling trip to get there. First through LAX to Singapore. After a 10 hour layover then on to Male, the capitol of the Maldives. Overnight in Male then a 1 hour flight to the Southern Atolls where you get on the boat for a 4 hour ride to the surf zone. Over 2 days of travel each way. The Northern Atolls are mostly resort based and although there are great waves in the Northern Atolls they can be relatively crowded. The Southern Atolls are still a very remote area. The only way to access the surf there is by boat.

The discovery and development of surf in the Maldives was relatively recent and has an interesting history. An Australian fellow named Tony Hussein was shipwrecked in the Northern Maldives in the early 80's. He discovered the incredible surf potential there and decided to stay. In early times he lived in isolation in the islands and anytime he would see a boat coming he would paddle in and go into the jungle as to not be discovered surfing. After a while he taught a few locals to surf so he would have someone to surf with. Later on he invited a few friends, and in the late 90's founded his company Atoll Adventures. He did not explore the Southern Atolls until the 90's and they are still a relatively virgin surf territory.

The waters in the Maldives are very warm (at times almost too warm), and extremely clear. It is a big destination for divers and it is like looking in an aquarium full of the most colorful tropical fish you have ever seen. The fishing is incredible for all types of reef fish and for yellowfin tuna. We slayed the tuna up to 120+ pounds. With a little effort and a little luck you can often catch all you want in the 50+ pound range. The smallest we caught was 30 pounds. We gave them to the local villagers and they were stoked. I definitely recommend bringing your own gear. The sun is very intense and it is one of the hottest places I have ever been. Bring plenty of sunscreen and eye protection. Burned eyes plagued us all.

In the Northern Atolls the best surf season is the same as Indo, April through September or so. The Southern Atolls are usually a foot or 2 bigger than the North but the surf season is more limited due to wind factors. The Southern Atoll season is from late February to Late April, and also late September through early October.

The surf is reef pass, and runs all ranges in size. The area is not generally known for huge surf (although I have seen video of it triple overhead), but is better known for perfect small to medium size surf. The reefs are pretty shallow on the smaller days but not much of a factor over shoulder high or so. One nice thing for the surfers is that most of the reefs died during the 97-98 El Nino. Of course this was a tragedy for the eco-system but if you hit a reef while surfing the reefs are not so much alive and they are smoother rendering less risk for infection from a reef cut. Thankfully they are coming back as the years pass.

Continued on the next page



Ty Takes  
Another One  
Without  
Anybody  
Around to  
Drop In On  
Him.

Video Grab  
from Ty

The whole goal of this trip for me is to get away from the crowds. Randy Allen and I (just the two of us on the boat), went in October 2003 and we never saw another surfer. We had excellent surf from 4-8 foot faces for most of the trip. It was quite an experience. This April we went and it was still very isolated but two other boats were there. Most of the time we had our spots to ourselves but it is still a different experience. 99% of the time all of the guys from different boats get along but it's a different atmosphere..not quite telling the other guys the truth to protect your spots, always wondering if there's another boat coming around the corner, stuff like that. One of the other operators is even coming in and telling their customers different names for the surf spots. 10 surfers would have still been a crowd at any time though and even when another boat is there you can still get time by yourself in the water. We had good waves and surfed 9 out of 10 days. You still get a winter's worth of waves at Swamis in one day in the Maldives though. Waves ranged on average from chest to 1 ? times overhead with some double overhead day's. The best day was at a place called 5 islands. A perfect 8-10 foot face reef pass peak. We all thought it was like perfect Blacks with no one out. There are 13 spots, rights and lefts, in the Southern Atolls and I have surfed about half of them. We went in late March as I was told the predominant winds were calm at this time. The day we arrived we saw the most perfectly oil slick water we had ever seen. This lasted two day's and then we had winds the rest of the trip. The winds were offshore and generally favorable for all of the rest of the trip but even offshore winds can be a factor at times. I think you get kind of spoiled.

If you are looking to get away from the crowds and score some reef waves, I would definitely recommend the Southern Atolls as a destination. Just be prepared for the lengthy travel. The cost is \$3500 all inclusive and I recommend booking through Waterways Travel. Also, the trips are booked about a year in advance. Wavehunters runs trips on one of the other boats which uses another operator and (as of now), is slightly cheaper and a bigger boat. I just don't like their disrespect to the original discoveries and the person who made them. Hopefully Atoll Adventures will upgrade their boat in light of the new competition. If you are considering a trip give me an email at [purefrustrationproductions@cox.net](mailto:purefrustrationproductions@cox.net) and I'll be happy to help out with anything.



## Competition Corner

Otis "The Dude" Sistrunk

Next Contest - Memorial weekend at Santa Cruz....

If you haven't been there, you're really missing out. Lots of fun, good surf, cheering your favorite surfers on the the cliffs above, just hanging out with all your friends...even the Whine King (from down under) goes to this contest.. going to the party, having a few drinks, dancing and just having a good time..... the prez will be there too... SO WHAT ABOUT YOU???

Any questions...contact me.

otisthedude@hotmail.com or dial (760) 753-1935.



Scott Bass at  
Fish Fry 2005

Photo by Matt

## School of Fish

by Matt Loo

I was out surfing Swamis the other evening, and it seemed as if every other shortboard descending the stairwell was a fish, or similar wide-bodied throwback from the days when all surfboards were more than 2.5 inches thick. What's old is new again... or is it?

On Sunday May 1, a group of fish enthusiasts met at the Oceanside North Jetty to compare notes, share design philosophies, and show off their quivers.

Board builders such as Mike Hynson, Rich Pavel, John Frazier, Gary McNabb, Bird Huffman, Terry Hendricks, Joe Roper, Jim Phillips, and a lot of other guys responsible for the design of the retro to post-modern fish were present, to answer questions and talk story.

Surf shops and distributors such as Surf Ride, Encinitas Surfboards, South Coast, Kane Garden, Hobie and Lokbox were also on hand demonstrating their latest equipment and innovations, giving out schwag, and showing off their stuff.

The beach was littered with fishes from every era in the fish's evolution from a kneeboard to the high performance surfing vehicles of today.

The surf was head high, with great conditions for "fishing". There was a lot of board swapping and demoing going on, and everyone seemed to be having a grand time. I've never seen so many fishes being surfed in one place at one time before. It was kind of surreal.

The fish is a design concept with it's roots firmly established in San Diego, and is experiencing a massive resurgence due to grass-roots events such as this... and let's face the facts that they just make sense when the waves are small and mushy.



1 Fish 2 Fish- Red Fish Blue Fish  
Photos by Matt Loo

## Friends of Swamis

The Swami's Surfing Association is appreciative to all of the great companies that help our club!

Please support our sponsors, and tell them how much they mean to our club.

Encinitas Surfboards - Marc Adam & John Kies, O'Neill Wetsuits, Starbucks Coffee - Lumberyard, Pizza Port, VG's Doughnuts, RIS Reinhardt Insurance Services - John Reinhardt, Juice it Up Smoothies, The Longboard Grotto, Coral Reef Wetsuits, Pelly's Fish, San Diego Printers - Bob Norton, Triton Sunglasses, The Royaltones Surf Band, Western Financial Advisors.

**Tom English**  
Registered Investment Advisor Representative

**Western Financial Advisors**  
The Advisory Division Of WFP Securities Corporation  
REGISTERED INVESTMENT ADVISORS

858-677-0377 (Office)  
858-677-0479 (Fax)  
5186 Carroll Canyon Rd. • Suite 102  
San Diego, CA 92121  
e-mail tom@wfp.com

Securities offered through  
WFP Securities  
Member: NASD, SIPC & SIPC

www.wfpsecurities.com

### Important Financial Tips

1. Diversify your investments
2. Fund your Pension
3. Start & Fund a Roth IRA
4. Call Tom



## Give Away Corner

You don't want to miss this month's goodies!! Yeah! Check it....

		Value
1.	O'Neill Rashguard	\$24.95
2.	Billabong T - Shirt	\$22.00
3.	Hurley B-Ball Hat	\$16.95
4.	Stay Covered 9 ft. leash (used by Bass)	\$22.00
5.	Headhunter Rash-Guard Gel	\$ 7.95
6.	Quicksilver B-Ball Hat	\$22.00
7.	Rip Curl Spring Suit	\$69.95
8.	Encinitas Surf T-Shirt	\$19.95
9.	Da Club New Swamis T-Shirt	Priceless
10.	Aloe Up Sun Block Kit	\$19.95
		\$225.65

We will have killer pizza & sodas etc. @ the meeting. Combo and veggie pizza \$2.00 a slice. Pizza Port rocks! Cheese & Pepperoni \$1.00 a slice. All sodas & Beers will be \$1.00 a can!! See ya @ the meeting.

Cheers,  
Marc

## Member Services

Bruce King	Gen. Cont.\Remodel\Drywall	945-8234	D. McFarland	Real estate Services	436-8833
Cliff Hansen	Brick\Block\Tile\Cement	943-1092	Gary Baum	Personal Injury Attorney	753-7970
DBrummett	Haircuts \ Stylist	943-1092	John Reinhardt	Insurance Broker	634-1033
Glen Stewart	Carpentry	944-0927	Misty Johnson	Mischief Sportswear	632-9813
Gordy Pease	Nutrition Products	753-1339	RJ Johnson	Real Estate	632-9813
Mark Elliot	Chiropractic \ Massage	941-9410	Bob Norton	San Diego Printers	634-5200
Robert Olmo	Landscape	753-0516	Tom Hopkins	Finish Carpenter \ Activist	436-3715
Tom Trozera	Auto \Boat Detailing	943-7095	Jack Crabtree	Handyman	931-2189
Jeff Mahoney	Carpentry \ Watertanks	436-1950	Mark / John	Encinitas Surfboards	753-0506
Tom English	RegisteredInvestmentAdvisor	943-7914	Steve Clark	Clark Custom Surfboards	943-8870
Pat Weber	San Diego Surf Academy	800 447-SURF	Scott Prince	Royal Fins	753-7773



## Swamis Surfing Association 2005 Board of Directors

President	Tom English	760 943-7914
Vice President	George Brolaski	760 809-1747
Secretary	Aussie John	
Treasurer	Marc Adam	760 753-0506
Member at Large	Dave Woodworth	760 634-1818
Member at Large	Mike Emerson	760 942-8574

### Assistants to the Board

Womens Rep	Denise Repenhagen	760 635-9362
Jr. President	Drew Woodworth	
Comp Director	Otis Sistrunk	760 753-1935
Legend at Large	John Peck	949 722-0387
Surf Club Coalition	Bruce King	760 945-8234
Legal Advisor	Gary Baum	760 753-7970
Newsletter Editor	Matt Loo	760 487-1809

Special thanks to Bob Norton at San Diego Printers for printing the newsletter, and mailing it.

You rule Bob and Laurie!