Oceanids News

UC SAN DIEGO OCEANIDS BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

VOL. LXIV No. 1 **October/November 2026**

Associate of the Chancellor

Thespine Kavoulakis

invites you to the

Oceanids
Fall Membership Brunch

DATE
Saturday, November 7, 2026

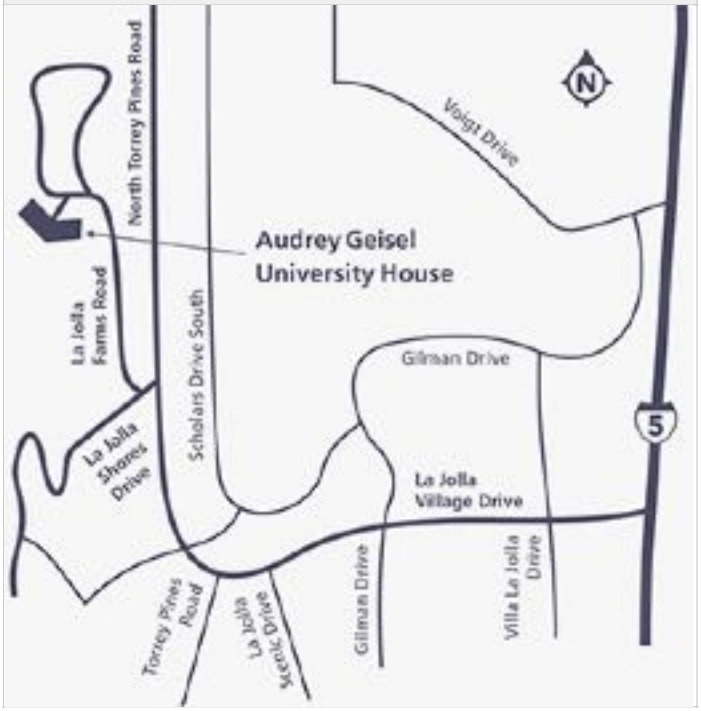
TIME
11:00 AM - 1:30 PM

ADDRESS
Audrey Geisel
University House
9630 La Jolla Farms Road
La Jolla, California 92037

INQUIRIES
Please contact Christiana Gerber Honnet at 858-334-3372

PARKING
Complimentary valet parking, carpooling is recommended.

Invitations will be sent to members via email.
RSVP by October 28



OCEANIDS CREW 2025-2026

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Honorary Chair: Thespine Kavoulakis, Associate of the Chancellor

Co-Presidents: Mary Hanson…. 858-456-1304
Liz Winant ……..858-231-1496

Immediate Past president: See above

Co-1st Vice-Presidents: Chris Chase.. 619-677-8234
Diana Vines.....…858-459-8248

2nd Vice-President: Mary Cutchin …858-729-3888
(Membership, directory updates)

Recording Secretary: Janet Ambrozek..858-272 2726

Treasurer: Jim Bunch…….858 453-5765

Financial Secretary: Liz Winant …….858-231-1496

Nominating Committee: Anne-France Saillot (cont), Paulette Boher, Elisabeth Smith, Helen Lesnick(alt), Jan Ouren, Janet Ambrozek

Parliamentarian: Barbara Bank …….858-484-4597

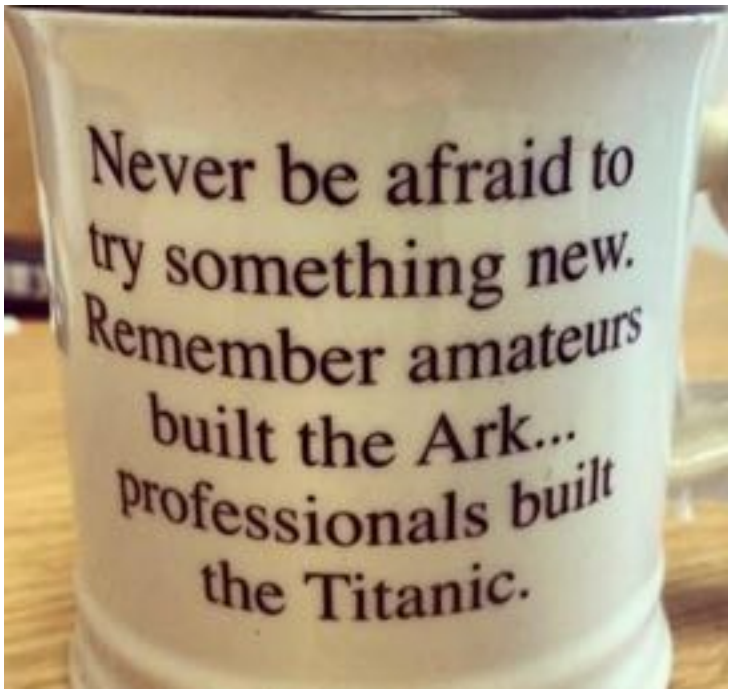
Interest Gr. Coordinator: Judy Vacquier 858-361-0418
Newcomers: Liz Fong Wills…… (858 232-7545)
Georgina Sham, gbsham@gmail.com
Corresponding Secretary: Chris Chase 619-677-8234
Newsletter Editor: Roswitha Enright..858-459-7375
Copy Editor: JudyVacquier……..……858-361-0418
Columnist: Jan Ouren……858-273-168
Refreshment Reminder: Mary Hanson 858-456-1304
Sunshine Committee: Diana Vines……858 459 8248
SDIS: Dorothy Parker……858 453-6351
BOARD MEETINGS: first Thursday every month. Oceanids are invited to attend/observe. 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
9500 Gilman Drive, MC 0018 Triton Administrative Service Building La Jolla, CA 92019

PLEASE NOTE The Post Office does not forward OCEANIDS NEWS. Please notify membership chairs of any change of address. Membership and/or subscriptions are $35 per year

E-MAIL: oceanids@ucsd.edu and also email: enrightroswitha@gmail.com and mwoonew@gmail.com

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



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



It's fitting that our Oceanids "year" corresponds with the academic year. It's a good idea for those of us who are fortunate to be active in one or more of our dynamic interest groups to remember that Oceanids is above all a UC San Diego Support Group. At our Fall Brunch on November 7 we will recognize our deserving Undergraduate Service Award recipients. In the Spring we have the opportunity to hear from our graduate fellows. At a time when there is plenty to feel anxious about, it's reassuring to meet these impressive scholars who will guide our future.

One of the reasons I enjoy being a leader in the organization is because we work so well together. Needless to say, it's been a pleasure serving with Co-President Liz Winant. I've served on other boards, and those experiences have generally been positive. However, I believe Oceanids is unique in how well we get along, support each other and enjoy each other's company. Kudos to all of our members who keep this unique organization running smoothly. Please know how much you are valued!

Mary Hanson
Co-President



IMPORTANT:

You should receive an email invitation to the Luncheon. However, if one doesn't arrive in your inbox by October 27, please contact Chris Chase 619-677-8234 as soon as possible.

Chris Chase,

Recipient of the Maxine White Award at the Spring Luncheon



Thursday, May 21, 2026 was a special day for Oceanids. We were celebrating our organization at the yearly Spring Luncheon. This time the restaurant chosen was **Seasons 52 Fresh Grill.**

We had invited this year's winners of the Oceanids' Fellowships and were treated to interesting and entertaining talks about their area of study.

Jake McCool, Physics Dept, Bertha Lebus Fellowship

Nicola Osgood, Sociology Dept, Frieda Daum Urey Fellowship

Shamil Zainuddin, Sociology, Frieda Daum Urey Fellowship

Desiree Handley, Linguistics, Frieda Daum Urey Fellowship

Wilfredo Gonzalez-Rivera, Bioinformatics and Systems Biology, Oceanids Memorial Fellowship



Nicola Jake



Geeta Shamil

UC San Diego Oceanids' Meet and Greet, August 2026

Our featured member in this issue is Paulette Synodis Bohrer. She and her mother are long-time members of Oceanids. Paulette herself wrote about her background, interests and volunteer activities in this Meet and Greet article. Thank you, Paulette, for the outstanding bio and all you do for the community!

Paulette Bohrer – UCSD Alum and long-time Oceanids' member--writes:



Having lived in five different countries before finishing high school, Paulette developed an early curiosity about languages, cultures and the wider world. Born in Mexico City to a Greek-American father and a Spanish-French-Mexican mother, her globally minded upbringing was shaped in part by her father's work with the Diplomatic Corps at the U.S. State Department. A few years after his retirement brought the family to San Diego, Paulette enrolled at UC San Diego.

While at UC San Diego, Paulette embraced many opportunities, including a year studying abroad in Costa Rica, an internship at CILAS (the Center for Latin American Studies), and numerous programs hosted by the International Center. Her senior Honors Project examined the privatization of Latin American telecommunications corporations. Paulette graduated with a dual B.A. in Communications and Latin American Studies, along with a certificate in Marketing from UCSD Extension. She has since completed additional coursework there in nonprofit management, grant writing and translation.

After graduation, Paulette joined TELMEX USA, the American subsidiary of Teléfonos de México, where she worked in the marketing department. When the company later relocated, she shifted her focus to raising her two sons as a stay-at-home mom, taking on leadership and fundraising roles at their schools and sports organizations, coordinating events such as the school Read-A-Thon and annual book fair.

Since 2020, Paulette has been actively involved with Birthline of San Diego County, a nonprofit resource center serving pregnant women and low-income families with children up to age six. She is deeply committed to Birthline's mission of providing essential supplies and support to families navigating difficult circumstances. Nearly half of young children in low-income households face increased risks of developmental delays, poor health outcomes, neglect and cycles of hardship. To learn more, visit www.birthlineofsandiego.org .

Outside of her volunteer work, Paulette is an avid reader who participates in three book clubs, and she enjoys hiking and traveling whenever possible.

Jan Ouren, Oceanids' Meet and Greet columnist, notes: *If you'd like to participate by suggesting a member to feature, or by letting members get to know you better in this column, please get in touch--jouren5353@gmail.com. Thank you!*

PAST PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

To celebrate the end of my 3 years as President of Oceanids, I made a 2 week trip to London to visit friends, museums, and the theater. I usually stay with my friends, but shortly before I left, my friend died, and since many relatives would be coming for the funeral, his wife suggested that I stay at the Premier Inn near them or at the one in the West End or at the student accomodations at one of the universities. I booked the student accomodation at the London School of Economics (LSE), which is 2 blocks south of the British Museum ($90/night).

Ever since I was mugged in Lisbon in 1970, I always carry my wallet in a front pants pocket instead of the back pocket, and when I am on foreign travel, I travel with a regular wallet and a passport wallet, one in each front pants pocket.

When I got to LSE, I realized my passport wallet was missing. While walking to immigration at Heathrow, there were signs saying "have your passports and documents ready". I stopped and took out my passport wallet and put my passport and Oyster card (for the underground) into my shirt pocket and put my passport wallet back in my left front pocket (or so I thought), while hauling my carry on in my right hand. There were also 50 British pounds ($70, leftover from my previous trip to London) and my American Express card in the passport wallet.

When I got to my room and got my laptop connected to the internet (no easy task) so that I could send an email to Amex to cancel my card, there was already an email from Amex asking if I had made 5 purchases in London. They had already put my card on Hold. I told them no, and that my Amex card had been stolen, probably in Heathrow. They said they would send me a new card to London, but I told them to hold off until I returned to La Jolla. In my regular wallet I had a Visa card which I used the 2 weeks in London.

Whoever stole it had bought 2 tickets on the express train from Heathrow to Paddington and at 4 stores for a total of $173, which I did not have to pay. However, I did lose the 50 pounds. The rest of the trip was uneventful in comparison. I was able to go to my friend's funeral and to 11 plays/musicals in the West End and to 1 opera at the Royal Opera (Vespri Siciliani), as well as to many museums.

Jim Bunch

New Members:

Ibtissem Besset,C: 760-707-4563; Email: ibtissembesset@gmail.com
Linda Lee, C: 760-519-4876; Email: lindaalee@outlook.com
Deborah Rice, C: 858-735-2798; Email: hidrice@sbcglobal.net

Mary Cutchin, Vice-President Membership; cell 958 729 3888

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. 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 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 jrblmenzel@cox.net

---

BIRDING GROUP AVISETS
Contacts: Liz Winant (858) 231-1496, lizwinant@gmail.com
We meet on the 2nd Monday of the month during the academic year.
Next outings: **October 12 , November 9**.

BOOK GROUP *Contact: Janet Goff janetrgoff@hotmail.com, Liz Winant 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 friendly little group. Our gatherings consist of 7 or 8 of us, and there's always room for more. Please be one of them.
Date "Title" Author / Host / Reviewer
OCT 13 "West With Giraffes" by Lynda Rutledge / CCC* / Steve Leon
NOV 10 "Audition" by Katie Kitamura / CCC* / Kathy Agnew

* Cardiff Cove Clubhouse; please contact Janet or Liz for directions.

* **BOOGIE BOARDING BUDDIES**
Contact: Liz Fong Wills
lizfong2@gmail.com *(858) 232-7545)*
We meet every Saturday and Sunday at 8:00 am year round when the ocean water temperature at La Jolla Shores is 55 F degrees or more. You must bring your own boogie board plus wetsuit if you feel the need for one. Please let Liz know if you are coming.

CAFE ESPAÑOL *Contacts: Vicky Lindblade 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 in person from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. One hour of conversation and 1/2 hour of reading aloud and group discussion. Call chair for more information.
Next meeting: October 8, November 12.

CAFÉ FRANÇAIS
C*ontacts: Anne-France Saillot, af.saillot@gmail.com*
For those who love the French language and want to practice listening and speaking French, our group welcomes you ! Our members come from all over the world. Every reunion we discuss a topic and learn new vocabulary. We meet every 2nd Wednesday of the month from 10:00 to 12:00 from October to May.
Meeting: October 14, November 11.

CELLPHONE PHOTOGRAPHY
Contact: *Kim Signoret-Paar, kspaar@outlook.com*
The group is on hiatus. For more information, please contact Kim.

CINEMA SOIRÉE
Contact: Jim Bunch at jbunch@ucsd.edu
The group meets at a designated home on the second Sunday of each month (all year long) at 7:00 pm for socializing; movie discussion starts at 7:30 pm sharp. You will be contacted by e-mail about which movie to see and where the discussion will take place.
Next meetings: October 11, November 8.

DAY BRIDGE *Contact: Beate Menzel jrblmenzel@cox.net or (619) 401-1557*
We meet the first and third Tuesdays of the month all year at various members' homes. We start at 10 am and usually end at or before 3 pm. Everyone brings her/his own lunch. The hostess will provide drinks. Call for information.
Next meetings: Oct. 6+20, Nov. 3+17

GERMAN KAFFEEKLATSCH
Contact: Roswitha Enright 858 459-7375 (renright@ucsd.edu)
This group is for beginners and experienced German speakers alike. Guaranteed no pressure. Just come on the 3rd Tuesday at 3 pm and have a good time. Only German spoken. If you want to join, please contact Roswitha. TIME: 3 PM TO 4:30 PM.
Next meetings: November 17

HORTICULTURE, a new Interest Group for all who love plants and like to care for them. *Contact: Nancy Groves, (858) 453-6486; nancygroves@me.com* if you are interested.

MOVEABLE FEAST II
Contact: Mary Cutchin (858) 729 3888 or marycutchin@yahoo.com
This group meets every couple of

months for dinner at a chosen restaurant. while sharing food and friendship.

PIANO AND CHAMBER SOIRÉE
Contact: Judy Vacquier (858) 361-0418 or jvacq@sbcglobal.net
Please call Judy for information for next meeting.

TAPAS ON THURSDAY *Contact : Barbara Bank <barbarabank6@gmail.com>*
The strength of our group is the warmth we share. If you wish to join us, please contact Barbara Bank (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 15, Nov. 19

WEDNESDAY CRAFTS
Contacts: Georgina Sham, gbsham@gmail.com. Lynn Jahn, lynnjahn@gmail.com.
Come join our social group of Oceanids, newcomers learn strange and wonderful American customs. Please contact Georgina or Lynn for more information.

WINE TASTING Contact Alicia Flores Meneses at
virginiacisne@yahoo.com or 858-353 3878





LOKI IS GONE!!! By Roswitha Enright

I had just adopted this beautiful English Pointer/Labrador from the San Diego Humane Society about three weeks ago. And now, after parking at the onset of our walk he squeezed out the door before I could grab the leash and was gone like a shot. Agonizing drives through the neighborhood were useless. Pasting flyers and later big posters with the necessary information brought no results.



Then about 10 days later a phone call: "*I have your dog. You can come and get it. I live…….*"(somewhere north, west of I 15). *"Is there a reward?"* Yes, maybe, a small one. When I called Babs, dog expert in recovering lost animals, she said, "That is a scam". Well, maybe it is but, after all, even on the miniscule chance that some people really had the dog and wanted to make an extra buck, I was taking that chance. My sister and I drove to the apartment complex and waited in the parking lot.Two young men appeared, my sister walked up to them and talked with them. "*Yes, their friend had the dog but wanted the reward first before he would release him*." No way, we need to see the dog before money.

While they talked, I had a long message exchange with the man who supposedly had the dog. "*You can't come into the house"*, he said as he was living with his aunt, "S*he would not allow it."* I asked him to take a picture of the dog and show it to me." *My phone is broken*." Use my phone to take a picture and bring it to me". "*No, I can't get into the apartment*," etc, etc……..

After several hours of exchanges, they had me where they wanted. On the off chance that my Loki was with them, I gave one of the guys $100, and he was to bring the dog. Of course, that was the last we saw of them.

I talked to a security guard at the apartment complex who urged me to tell the police, which I did. And some time later I got a letter from the County Department for Seniors and Aging or something like that. A concerned citizen had told them that I might need help in my everyday life. When I called and inquired further it turned out that they had heard about the dog scam and wanted to check in with me. Really nice.

Meanwhile, Loki is back. A week after the scam I got a phone call from a person who lived not very far from here. They had found my dog in their garage, sans leash and harness but with the collar and tag with my phone number. How the dog survived for 16 days, I will never know. Maybe in the somewhat wild area near Soledad Mountain? He had some mud spots on his white fur which could mean he found water. Happiness is having Loki back.

OCTOBER 2026

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

NOVEMBER 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	THUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6**	**7**
		Day Bridge	Wednesday Craft	Board Mtg		FALL LUNCHEON
8	**9**	**10**	**11**	**12**	**13**	**14**
Cinema soiree	Birding	Book Group	Wed. Craft Cafe Francais	Cafe Espanol		
15	**16**	**17**	**18**	**19**	**20**	**21**
		Day Bridge German	Wednesday Craft	Tapas		
22	**23**		**25**	**26**	**27**	**28**
			Wed. Craft			
29	**30**					
Piano Soiree						

WELCOME NEWCOMERS!
UC San Diego Oceanids
9500 Gilman Drive, MC 0018
Triton Administrative Service
Building La Jolla, CA 92019



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