



The Gaff Line

January 2010

From the Helm

by Art Ponce, Club President

Hello everyone. The 2010 is here, and with it, a new start for all. We wish you a happy and prosperous new year. 2009 was a difficult for most of us, but we have made the most of it, and it's good to know that it can only get better. Our club was in a poor financial state at the beginning of the year, and due to generous club members, who responded to our plea for help, we are in a much better position to start the New Year. I want to thank all of you for your help.

The club house suffered some damage due to the high winds in early December. The antenna was toppled over, patio furniture was broken, and the sun shade was ripped. We will have a club fix up day to address these needs in a few weeks. If you have a patio set you wish to donate, contact the club or myself. The docks are also in need of repair, and cleaning. We will post the event on the club web site.

All voting members should have received ballots for the three vacancies on the board of directors last month. If you had a change of address and didn't receive a ballot, contact the club with the correct address, and you will have until the 10th to return your ballot.

The next club event will be our awards dinner. It will be held at the Silver Gate Yacht Club on Saturday, Feb. 20th. We will have a fabulous meal of prime rib or salmon. We are planning on making this evening very special and entertaining (dancing?). I hope to see you all there.

Arthur J. Ponce

We are accepting dues payments for the 2010 year

Winter Club Hours: Friday & Saturday - 1pm to 5pm
If you need something at a different time call Penny @ 619-742-8225

IF YOU HAVE A FISH TO WEIGH CALL:

BOB-(619) 227-5478, CRIS-(619) 225-0505, DON-(858) 272-5621, WAYNE-(760) 747-6239, SHERI-(619) 865-9261

SHOGUN
Sportfishing

1st Albacore - January 3 - We left yesterday on the annual January sixteen day trip and par for the course on the second day out of San Diego (today the 3rd) we came up with the first albacore of the year. Mr. Dave Hensely and the infamous "beer" Bob Dosek were the persistent anglers that had their trolling rigs in the water when we went by the willing tunas. Our weather has been flat calm as we make our way south.

BigFishHappen, Bruce A. Smith

EL NIÑO/SOUTHERN OSCILLATION (ENSO) DIAGNOSTIC DISCUSSION 7 January 2010

ENSO Alert System Status: El Niño Advisory

Synopsis: El Niño is expected to continue at least into the Northern Hemisphere spring 2010.

El Niño strengthened during December 2009, with above-average sea surface temperatures (SST) encompassing the central and eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean (Fig. 1). Weekly values of the Niño-3.4 index increased slightly with the most recent value reaching +1.80C (Fig. 2). Consistent with this warmth, equatorial upper-ocean heat content anomalies remained positive (Fig. 3). Subsurface temperature anomalies exceeded +20C across much of the equatorial Pacific (Fig. 4), with the largest departures seen in the eastern part of the basin at the end of the month. Equatorial low-level westerly and upper-level easterly wind anomalies were also consistent with El Niño, along with a continuation of suppressed convection over Indonesia and enhanced convection over the western and central equatorial Pacific. **Collectively, these oceanic and atmospheric anomalies reflect a strong El Niño.**

The models continue to disagree on the eventual peak strength of El Niño (Fig. 5). At this time, it is expected that the 3-month Niño-3.4 SST average will exceed +1.50C during the winter (e.g. November-December-January and December-January-February). Regardless of its precise peak strength, El Niño is expected to exert a significant influence on the global weather and climate in the coming months. Most models indicate that SST anomalies in the Niño-3.4 region will begin to decrease in early 2010, and that El Niño will persist through April-May-June 2010.

Expected El Niño impacts during January-March 2010 include drier-than-average conditions over Indonesia and enhanced convection over the central tropical Pacific Ocean, which will likely expand eastward and influence portions of the eastern equatorial Pacific, as well as coastal sections of Peru and Ecuador. For the contiguous United States, potential El Niño impacts include above-average precipitation for the southern tier of the country, with below-average precipitation in the Pacific Northwest and in the Ohio and Tennessee Valleys. Below-average snowfall and above-average temperatures are most likely across the northern tier of states (excluding New England), while below-average temperatures are favored for the south-central and southeastern states.

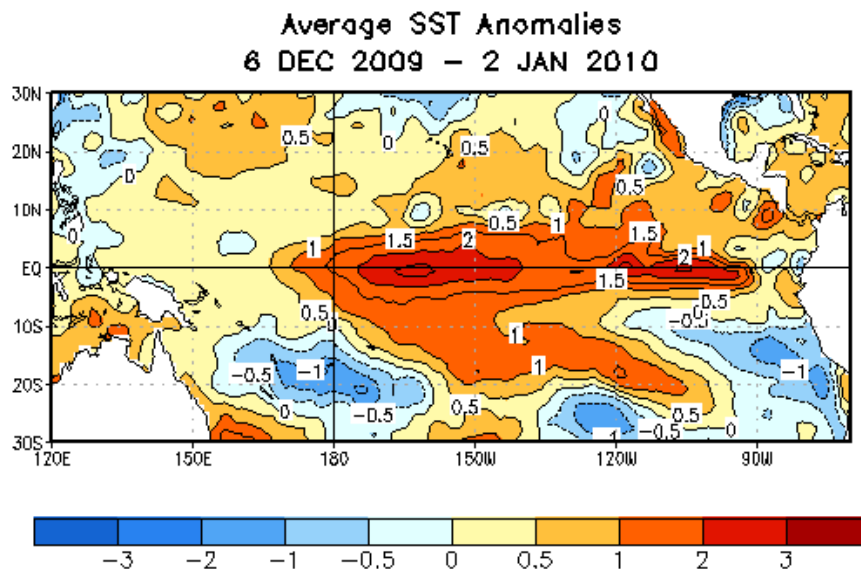


Figure 1. Average sea surface temperature (SST) anomalies (°C) for the four-week period 6 December 2009 – 2 January 2010. Anomalies are computed with respect to the 1971-2000 base period weekly means (Xue et al. 2003, *J. Climate*, **16**, 1601-1612).

Lead is getting very expensive. Here's an alternative. Bricks!

A 2"x4"x8" brick weighs 5 pounds and costs between 35 and 50 cents. Cut it in half and you have two 2.5 pound rock cod sinkers. And a little more environmentally friendly.



Humboldt Squid in abundance

From the upper 9 mile bank to the 182 out to the 43, the giant Humboldt squid are eating everything in their path.

The Humboldt Squid (*Dosidicus gigas*), also known as Jumbo Squid, Jumbo Flying Squid, or Diablo Rojo (Spanish for Red Devil), is a large, predatory squid found in the waters of the Humboldt Current in the Eastern Pacific Ocean. They are most commonly found at depths of 200–700 meters (660–2,300 ft), from Tierra del Fuego to California. Recent findings suggest the range of this species is spreading north into the waters of Oregon, Washington, British Columbia, and Alaska.

Behavior and general characteristics

Humboldt Squid are carnivorous marine invertebrates that move in shoals of up to 1200 individuals. They swim at speeds of up to 24 kilometers per hour (15 mph/13 knots) propelled by water ejected through a hyponome (siphon) and by two diamond shaped fins. Their tentacles bear suckers lined with sharp teeth with which they grasp prey and drag it towards a large, sharp beak.

Humboldt Squid are thought to have a lifespan of only about one year, although some researchers believe they may survive up to four years. They may grow to 2 meters (7 ft) and weigh 45 kilograms (100 lb). They can rapidly change their skin color from deep purplish red to white using chromatophores (specialized skin cells) in what some researchers believe is a complex communication system. Experts have also stated that the invertebrates hunt for their prey of small fish and krill, in a cooperative fashion, which would be the first observation of such behavior. Humboldt Squid are known to hunt near the surface at night, taking advantage of the dark to use their keen vision to feed on more plentiful prey.

Roger Uzun, a veteran scuba diver and amateur underwater videographer who swam with a swarm of the animals for about 20 minutes, said they seemed to be more curious than aggressive.

Words of Wisdom

"Only dead fish go with the flow"

-- Anonymous

DATES TO REMEMBER for 2009

Awards/ Trophy Dinner	February 20, 2010
General Membership Meeting	April , 2010
Club Clean Up Day	April , 2010
Open House/Day at the Docks	April , 2010
Sundowner	May , 2010
Spring Shootout*	May , 2010
Don Blackman Memorial Halibut Derby*	June , 2010
Presidents' Tournament	August , 2010
Juniors' Tournament	August , 2010
Small Boat Tournament*	August , 2010
Labor Day Tournament	September , 2010
BBQ	September , 2010
ILTT Tournament & Dinner Awards Banquet	September , 2010

*Open to the public



THE MARLIN CLUB OF SAN DIEGO
2445 SHELTER ISLAND DRIVE
SAN DIEGO, CA 92106

