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**CHOLLA CHATTER**  
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**CHOLLA BAY SPORTSMEN'S CLUB, INC.**  
 P.O. Box 7171, Phoenix, Arizona 85011

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# The ~~manana~~ Deep Freeze

By Bob & Alice Taylor

It happened the night of Jan. 5th, 1971. Later I learned from Hector Monroe, the 'Manana Maybe' boat Captain, that it has happened once before, 7 years ago.

The weather had been hectic here at the Bay from the night of January 2nd. The wind became of hurricane force with 20 ft. swells and high chops thruout the whole area. A fine misty spray was thrown high into the air from each chop. The wind from the northwest was cold and the barometer rose to 30.38/10, the highest I've ever seen here.

Everybody stuck to the stove on the 3rd and 4th and the night of the 5th, the thermometer fell to 28 degrees, causing havoc among plants around the Bay and also became a fish killer.

The next morning not too early, although a very cold one, I started fishing over on Sandy Beach as the breakers were still very high and frequent at Pelican Point.

At Sandy Beach, I found Mr. South with 4 sea trout, one of the largest I've seen this past year. Mr. South, now fishing in his 27th year, or I should say winter, in Cholla Bay, is 87 years young. He never missed a day fishing someplace around Cholla and is one of the finest gentlemen I have ever met. Charley Ralston and his wife Lenore were also fishing at Sandy Beach, he having retired here from the California smog some 5 years

ago. We all fished together until high tide and then they left. I stayed on as the birds kept feeding close to the shore. Farther up near the rocks, there were thousands of sea gulls, pelicans, sea hawks and mackerel birds feeding on something. Seemed strange as they were not diving, but sitting and eating.

Soon I left the Beach for Pelican Point for a last try. At the point and in Cholla Bay there were thousands of birds all over the place. I had never seen so many. I pitched a few more times with Mr. Champ and the jig but nothing happened and I became curious as to why the sea gulls sat on the very edge of the waves for so long.

I had my hip boots on so I decided to find out. When I approached Tucson Beach I saw several hundred dead fish lying every place, pargos, snappers, several grouper, jardineros, you name it. I kept on wading to the birds and found the water full of small 1" long minnows, crabs, shrimp, sea snails, sea worms and again you name it.

Right away I went home and told Alice and we then investigated in front of our place, as the tide was out a long ways. The first thing she found was a golden sea horse, some 6" long and there again were the fish that littered the Tucson Beach.

We gathered some 20 to 25 pinto, snappers and etc. and filleted them to distribute around and some for

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5-

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# the art of Fish Painting

Have you ever caught a fish and wished there was some way to show it off, other than taking a picture of it? The Japanese art of fish painting would be something different and exciting for you to do. More dramatic than pictures and cheaper than taxidermy.

Fishpainting is exactly what it sounds like. You paint your fish, and while the paint is still wet, print it on a sheet of absorbent paper. Use this simple and effective process to make any amount of prints. To get started here is a list of materials, which you may purchase in any hobby or art supply store.

- Sheets of silkspan
- Bristle paintbrush 1/2"
- Tube black watercolor paint
- Small scrub brush
- A Small watercolor set

Be sure the silkspan is free from wrinkles. First, scrub the protective slime from your fish, brushing with the scales, not against them. Don't clean the fish as the body must be full for a good print. Wipe the fish with paper towels, leaving it damp, and lay it on a thick pad of newspapers, scrubbed side up. You can stuff the gills with a small wad of paper and prop its mouth open with a matchstick. Spread the dorsal and tail fins and pin them into the newspapers, keeping the pinheads flush with the fins.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6—



The C.B.S. Council is made up of the Phoenix, and Tucson Chapters. They meet quarterly in Casa Grande. Your Council members are elected every January by the Chapter's Executive members. Phoenix has 12 members and Tucson 4. In January, the new Council meets and elects a Chairman, Sec'y and Treasurer from its members, The Cholla Chapter, Search and Rescue, Radio Shack, Insurance, Improvements at the Bay, Christmas party and Derby are all Council Projects. 80% of all Chapters due go to the Council for the carrying out of these programs. Recommendations are taken to the Council from each Chapter, which have been approved by the Chapter members. Then Council accepts or rejects these motions.



us. The meat was firm and cold and just like freshly caught.

Possibly an oceanographer could offer an explanation, but as a layman I will guess the cold north wind with the lower temperature chilled the water to killing temperatures.

Hector Monroe said as we were in our warm house, overlooking the Bay by the boat landing watching the birds feeding and the Mexicans picking up the dead fish:

"God must know what He is doing, the birds are not hungry any more and the people have plenty to eat".

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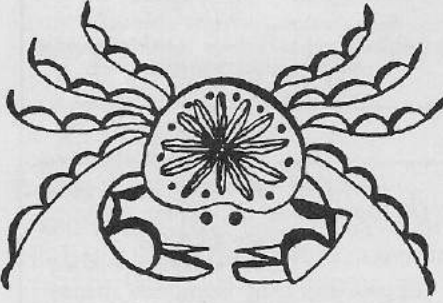
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Squeeze out  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch of watercolor paint on a coffee can lid or saucer. Wet the paintbrush, shake off any excess water swirl the brush around in the paint. Paint the fish with the scales. Carefully paint around with even strokes, always painting the eye. Don't use too much paint, or you'll lose details in the print.

The next step, printing, takes two people. Stretch the silkspan flat between you and center it over the fish. When it is placed right, lower the silkspan to the fish. Gently pat and rub the paper onto the fish body. You'll be able to see the print form through the silkspan. After you've finished painting, remove the silkspan as carefully as you applied it, using a peeling motion. Lay the print to dry on newspapers, keeping the printed side up.

After the painting is dry, use the watercolor set to paint in the eye details, fin colors, nerve lines and other features you wish to accent. If the paint wrinkles during handling, it can now be ironed flat.

Make several prints the first time to gain experience, build confidence and to discover the variety of effects that are possible. You can also experiment with different paint colors and papers.

To finish the job, have the painting matted or framed. You can do this very easily or if you aren't handy have it framed by an art store. A word of caution, since many paints are toxic, don't eat your fish after painting. In time the print will be more valuable to you than a plate of fried fish.

Making fishprints takes little longer than cleaning your fish. Less framing, your fish painting should cost around 20 cents. This sounds like a lot of fun and I'm sure going to do it the next time I catch one of those beautiful sea trout.



# SCUBA DIVING



By R. Roy Williams

As a certified SCUBA instructor, I am often asked three questions about diving. I have attempted to answer those questions here in case you have been wondering too. The answers are my personal opinion and do not necessarily agree with the answers another instructor might give you.

## 1. Why do people SCUBA dive?

When you were a child did you ever dream of traveling to a strange world? A world that was populated by strange beings — animals that look like plants, animals that look like rocks, animals that breathe a different atmosphere. A world where you had to wear a “space suit” so you could breathe and live in the alien atmosphere. A world of strange and exquisite beauty — not like anything you have seen on earth. A world with different gravity — enabling you to “fly” or step off a forty foot cliff and move effortlessly up and down the cliff face.

If you had those dreams or if you just enjoy getting out in this wonderful world then you are a potential SCUBA diver (or maybe you already are a SCUBA DIVER). SCUBA diving makes these dreams possible. Everytime you stand on the sea shore you are just a few feet from this strange and beautiful world.

## 2. Is SCUBA diving dangerous?

Preliminary reports on nationwide studies indicate that SCUBA diving need not be more dangerous than other hobbies if you receive proper training and observe basic safety rules.

3. How do I insure that I will receive proper training? There are several organizations that certify SCUBA divers. The oldest and one of the best is the Los Angeles certification. The only disadvantage to this certification is that it is sponsored by Los Angeles County California and is not nationally available. The oldest national certification is offered by the YMCA. The YMCA certification is recognized internationally and is certainly one of the best. The oldest national organization devoted strictly to the education of SCUBA divers is the National Association of Underwater Instructors (NAUI). NAUI is actually international in that they offer SCUBA instruction in many other countries also and their certification is recognized as widely as any. Other National certification are the National Association of Skin Diving Schools (NASDS; taught only through retail SCUBA stores) and the Professional Association of Diving Instructors (PADI).

Of equal if not more importance

Continued on Page 8-

**DID YOU FORGET? ? ?** This will be the last Chatter you receive. Please send in your dues now. Regular dues, including renewals, are \$10.00 per year. \$2.00 each per year for spouse and sponsored children. Membership Chairman, 2050 W. Dunlap No. 126 B, Phoenix 85021 or Membership Chairman, P. O. Box 4061, Tucson 85717.

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is the quality of the course itself. This is very difficult for an aspiring diver to determine but a couple of guidelines can be applied:

a. **Length of course:** I don't believe a SCUBA course for the general public can be adequately taught in less than 32 hours. This time should be all classroom and pool instruction and testing before the student is taken for a dive in open water. (When investigating a course, it might be well to multiply the number of class and pool sessions by the length of each to determine this number — time spent on the open water or "checkout" dive should not be included in the 32 hours.

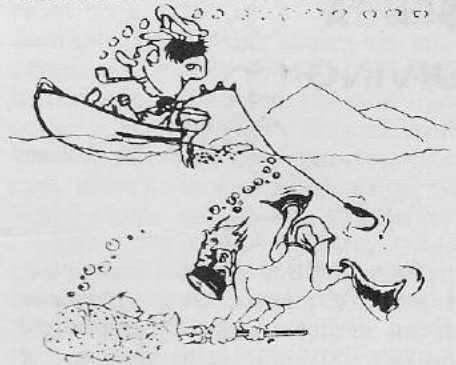
Another way to increase the odds of a quality course is to assure yourself that the instructor has attended a certification school or course and has demonstrated his ability to teach diving to a review board. Los Angeles County, YMCA and NAUI all have this as a mandatory requirement.

b. **Checkout dive:** Any SCUBA course should include an open water dive under the direction of a certified instructor. If at all possible this dive should be in the ocean and most desirable would be a checkout that included diving off a boat and off the beach.

Another possibility in considering your SCUBA course is the availability of an advanced divers course. This course should be at least 40 hours in length and half of that should be open water diving. This gives the diver much more knowledge and experience and is highly recommended.

**One word in closing.** If you have a "friend" that says he is a SCUBA diver and can show you how in a few minutes or hours, beware. He has just announced in loud clear words that he doesn't understand SCUBA!!

## TUCSON SCUTTLEBUTT



ARTHUR SCHWARZ

If a WAC is a woman of the Army, a WAVE is a woman of the Navy, and a WAF is a woman of the Air Force, what is a WOK? It is something you twow at a wabbit!

Our January meeting was well attended and Ray Mason showed an interesting movie. President, Bob Morris, VIP Ray Mason, Secretary Winnie Sims and Treasurer Lee Cashon were all at their new stations and conducted a very orderly and interesting meeting. Bob stated that the Christmas party at Cholla was a great success. They filled 156 large bags with oranges, cracker-jacks, apples, candy, etc. The bags left over were taken to the Apostolic Church in Rocky Point for distribution to their children.

**Did you hear about the politician who introduced a bill to cut the price of liquor \$2.00 a fifth? He was after the drunken drivers vote!**

If any of you weren't at the Bay on January 26th, you missed a tide higher than we have seen for many years. 16 feet high and 6 feet low. I bet the waters were lapping at the door of the Radio Shack. By the way, this year, Patty will be the only source of supply for the tide calendars. You buy from her. At the end of this year there were many 1970 calendars left over. Bob Morris



said they can be purchased real cheap.

Hear about the chicken crossing the road and stopped right in the middle. She wanted to lay it right on the line.

The trouble getting boats across the border has now been solved and you should have no problems unless you are openly defying regulations.

If you don't think women are explosive, try dropping one.

Frank Zimmerman spoke about the poverty that exists in some of

the Cholla Bay families. For those of us who visit the Bay often he suggested that we sort of adopt one child and take care of it by bringing it clothes and food and goodies. This is a wonderful idea and will show the people of Cholla that we really do care.

Hirsh Shoe Stores which has three locations in Tucson has given the club quite a supply of shoes which will be taken to the Bay by Bob and distributed to the needy. Drinking is bad taste that tastes good!



## TUCSON CHRISTMAS PARTY

## 1971 TUCSON OFFICERS



(Left to right:)  
Secretary - Winnie Sims  
Vice President - Ray Mason  
Treasurer - Lee Cashion  
President - Bob Morris

# SHARKS from the Sea of Cortez

Part I

By: Phillip S. Miles, Biological Sciences Department, University of Arizona

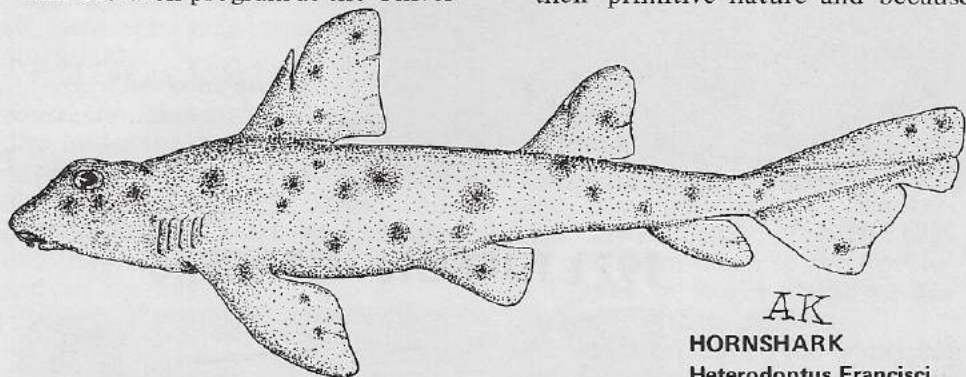
Illustrated by: Alex Kerstitch

While the upper Gulf of California is sometimes thought to have an impoverished marine fauna because of its unique and often extreme environmental conditions, this is certainly not true of its sharks. The common sharks of both northern and southern waters occur here along with a few found only in this part of the Pacific. From cold waters, for example, come blue and basking sharks. Of warm water varieties, the gulf sharpnose (bironche and lemon (usually called the brown or amarillo) are separate species from their Atlantic counterparts, but our make and tiger are the same sharks which have created legends everywhere.

We have been interested in these strange fishes since starting our marine research program at the Univer-

sities with those at other institutions such as the Los Angeles County Museum, and, most promising of all, to maintain sharks live at our facilities in Puerto Penasco and recently -- for the first time -- in large aquaria at the University itself, in order to learn more about their behavior.

Altogether at least 20 species of sharks are found in the upper gulf (Guaymas and northward). Many of these, such as the sicklefin smoothhound (mamón) which was kept live in a pilot program last spring, seem to be most common in the summer and may, perhaps, be migrants. Among the several species which appear to be resident year round are the angel shark (diable) and two little horn sharks (cornudos), all three of which are unusual because of their primitive nature and because



AK  
**HORN SHARK**  
*Heterodontus francisci*

sity of Arizona and, though it is sometimes difficult to separate a natural curiosity about sharks from their scientific interest, since then a number of specimens have been caught or received for the fish museum and a preliminary list of species from the area has been compiled. I have also begun to collect information about the ecology of sharks in the gulf, including the details of their occurrence and activities, to coordinate our investiga-

of the clues which they may give us about the behavior of their larger relative. Unlike so many other sharks which do not readily adapt to confinement, these sharks can be taken into the laboratory. Recently, through the totoaba research program which has begun experimental trawling with the shrimp boats, we have had the good fortune to obtain live specimens of the little, brown-spotted horn sharks for further study.





The past year has been very good to search and rescue, though we have had some very close calls. Our S/R team has always arrived in time. We give thanks to God for allowing us this few extra minutes or hours that it took to accomplish this. As we head into a new year of fun and fishing at our favorite fishing hole our S/R team will be on hand if needed. Our radio operator, Patty has done a good job in making sure there was no one left hanging on the hook before she put the lock to, on the radio shack door.

Frank Zimmerman, my Tucson assistant who coordinates the Tucson arms of Search and Rescue did a fine job this past year and I've asked him to work with me this year. I wish to thank all the club members who this past year has put their equipment to the test in pulling some one in that couldn't make it on their own, the finest safety record that I know of for a club of this size of boaters we take care of and the type water we boat and fish in. I give credit for that record to S/R and the very foundation the club was built on, Safety, Sportsmanship and love for his fellow man.

To the new members coming in to the club and making their first trip to Cholla, I say, Equip boat for Cholla waters, Heed the wise fisherman of Cholla and what they say and remember for all those that go down to the sea in ships, the sea could hold them for ever.

*El Burro sand 'n' sno*

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By . . . MEL JARVIS

After the wintery weather we just lived through, the question was asked, "Will the outdrive or lower unit be damaged by freezing?" the outdrive and lower unit of the outboard are self draining, the only time the I/O unit or outboard lower unit will hold water is when you forget to run out your engine after a day of fishing and leave the unit in the up position. Water will lay in the pump plate that will retain a very small amount of water that could freeze and cause the pump plate to be forced up against the empellor, I've been told this could happen in some units if the temperature gets way down there.

I've always told you to get in the habit of checking the lower unit on

your rig every two or three times you use it, and do so by removing the lowest mast plug. (on the outboard DO Not remove any plug or screw that takes a phillips screw driver. That's a no no). This will tell you if there is water in the gear case. If there is water at this low point or the grease has a milky color, drain it. This is very important in freezing weather such as we have had. The water in the grease will freeze and can cause extensive damage to the gear case.

As for the engine on the I/O its no different than your car in cold weather it should be drained, there are drain plugs on each side of the engine for this purpose, on the Vs and on one side on the 4s and 6s I may add that Merc. Cruiser has drains installed in their exhaust manifolds. The power head of the outboards are self draining. If you put your rig in storage for the winter months, it is best to store them with engine (outboards) and the outdrive units in the down or operating position, this will allow water gas and oil mix (outboard) to drain away.

GOOD BOATING!

MEL

---

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## CHOLLA CHRISTMAS PARTY

Santa Claus went to Cholla Bay, Dec. 26th to the delight of 78 Cholla Bay children. Gifts plus sacks loaded with candy, fruits and goodies were distributed to all. The children, as well as the Committee has a wonderful time. Many thanks to all, who helped make this a tremendous success.

### ATTENTION

#### PHOENIX CLUB MEMBERS

Hal McKenzie has an outstanding movie for us at the February meeting. The 'UNDERSEA WORLD OF JACQUE COUSTEAU'. DON'T MISS IT!!!!!!!



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For the first several years of its existence, the Cholla Bay Sportsman Club used to hold its annual Fishing Derby over Birthington's Washday, February 22nd. By the same token, the Rocky Point Lions Club, each year, held a combination derby and fiesta over Labor Day, as a joint venture with us.

The 22nd of February was quite often, cold enough to freeze the ears off of a brass burro, and consequently, the variety of fish eligible for trophies was confined to the bottom dwelling type. Surf casters could have a go at trying to find Sea Trout, but, the cagy little rascals were pretty elusive at this time of year, and usually anyone lucky enough to nail a trout had a cinch prize winner.

After four or five years of having the derby on this date, the CBSC Board of Directors decided to hold the annual event on a later date in the year, so that the participating anglers would have a crack at a wider variety of fish flesh, and the prevailing weather would be a trifle more hospitable. This was a fine move, for us light tackle-small fish-lazier type fishermen, because we could now park our billiard ques and steel lines winches, and use our sporty sticks and light lines and still have a chance to win fame and for-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15—



tune. Memorial Day was the official time chosen, and it opened up the possibility of hanging a hook into a Sailfish, a Dolphin or a Skipjack for the blue water boat fisherman, and for the surf and shallow water fisherman, it gave him a chance to fish for Mackerel, Pompano, Ladyfish bigger trout and White Sea Bass or Totuava.

I can well remember the many times I goofed while participating in this yearly event, like the time my fishing buddy and I roared to Bird Island in a 14½ boat, nailed a sack full of Mackerel weighing between seven and one half and twelve pounds, and then bounced back against a choppy ten minutes too late to qualify any of them, and the trophy winner that year was a trifle over six pounds or the time my little herd and I camped out at Sand Beach, and the day before the derby opened, I scouted out the likely Sea Trout areas and actually nailed a seven pound Sea Trout, but the day of the derby opening, I spent the whole day light hours digging out @!!-\*buried pickups and cars for dingaling drivers who didn't have enough sense to keep on the road. That year I think that a five and one half pound trout took top honors.

Another time, after a long boat trip to St. Georges Estuary, I ended up with a miserable looking little Sea Trout that would barely weigh one and one half pounds, so I didn't even bother trying to get the dang thing weighed in, and I came to find out later it was the only Sea Trout caught during the whole shebang - -

The only time I did anything worth bragging about during a derby was strickly by accident - - it was

about eight or ten years ago, way before you could drive to the Estuaries, and we had gone down to the First Estuary by boat to cast for Sea Trout. After beaching inside the slough, we walked about a mile and a half down the beach casting all the while, with nary a trout bump, when I spotted a dark shadow slowly crusing the shoreling. I flipped a Tony Accenta half heartedly in its direction and darned if it didn't charge the lure, inhale it, and then take off for Baja. After a good twenty minute nip and tuck battle,, I finally beached one fat old Sow Grouper. The husky brute won me a prize in the Grouper catagory - - a big trolling plug that I never would have occasion to use.

This past year, 1970, was the first time in history that the derby was completely blown out, but I'm sure 1971 will be different - '70 had to be the windiest year yet, and I'm sure mother nature must be plumb tuckered, and will do nothing but gently sigh for us Cholla fishermen this year (anyone believes this - - stand on your head).

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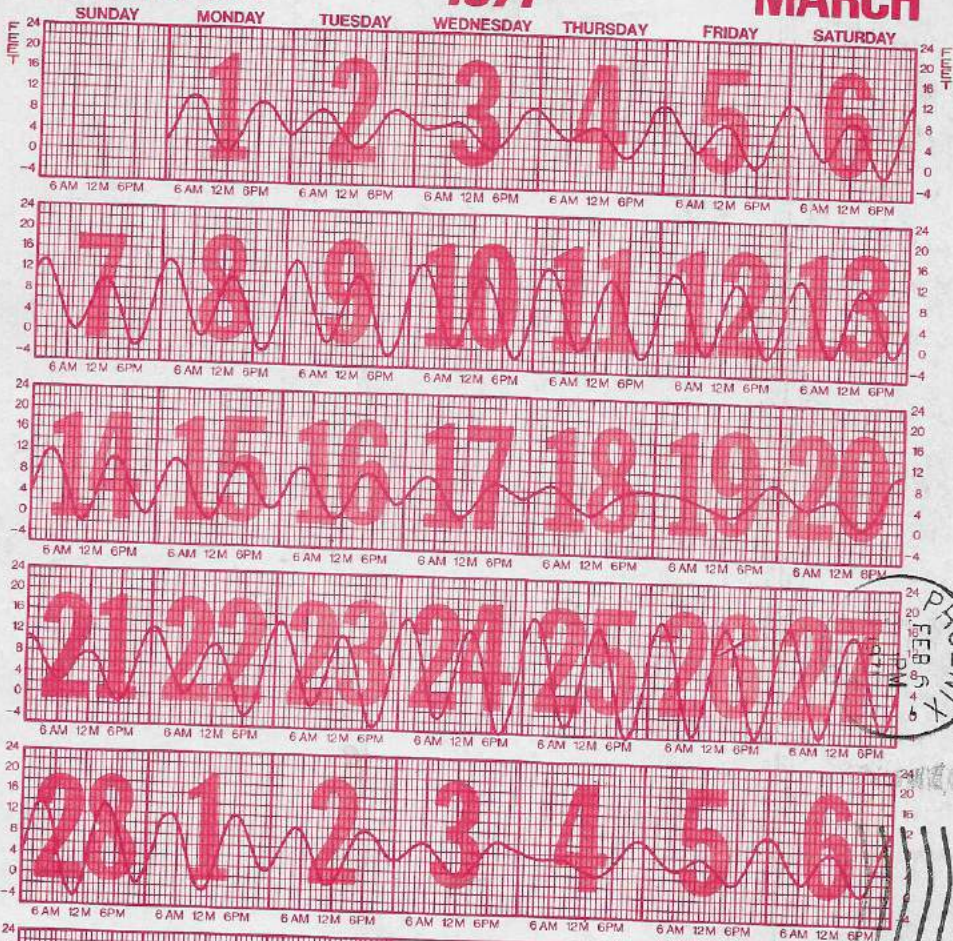
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**FEBRUARY 1971 MARCH**



	SEA TEMP. (°F)	AIR TEMP. (°F)
PUERTO PEÑASCO	80°	85°
SAN FELIPE	N.A.	84°

N.A. — INFORMATION NOT AVAILABLE

100%	200%
FULL	NEW
12:41 A.M.	2:49 A.M.

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ALL TIME IS MOUNTAIN STANDARD TIME (MST)  
 DATUM: M.S.W.