

# Dive N' Surf, Redondo Beach

## *With Roads Closed During The Woolsey Fire, Surfers Take To The Ocean To Haul Supplies To Victims*

by Janet Ragonesi

The South Bay community stepped up recently by giving to the families and animals that have lost their homes and are displaced by the recent fires.

On November 16th, as I was watching television, a news reporter announced a call for donations by Dive N' Surf in Redondo Beach. Dive N' Surf is a stone's throw from my home. The company has been a part of the community since approximately 1953 and is the home of Body Glove. I was impressed by their web site, as the company is very philanthropic, supporting a number of organizations throughout California. I drove to the shop and discussed with the volunteers what they needed for donations. They had NO donations for companion or aviary birds that had been displaced by the fires. I immediately contacted Kathy Powell, our CFO, Karen Allen from Birds & More and Karen spoke with Tomi Takemoto from Animal Lovers Pet Shop. In my conversation with Dive N' Surf, I learned that they were making plans to transport the items by boat as the roads were closed due to the fires.

I did not want to miss their launch timeline and promised to return with donations by 4:30pm. I had a 3-hour window! As part of SBBS community outreach commitment, with Birds & More, Animal Lovers Pet Shop, Myrna Frame and myself, we set out on a mission to help. We pulled together over \$500 worth of High Pro Mix, bags of pellets, a variety of seed mixes, millet spray, small animal carriers, plus a few bags of cat food.

As I drove to pick up the donations, I thought of all the birds that needed our help. Both Karen and Tomi had organized their donations. Before I knew it, I was on my way back to Dive N' Surf and arrived safely at 4:15 pm.

Volunteers at Dive N' Surf were thrilled and grateful for our donation. They stated, "We knew you would come back, what a donation!" My heart was full, and I truly believe we are all connected, "that it does take a flock" and together we made a difference! Then, as always!

While at Dive N' Surf, we had a lovely conversation about a hummingbird in need that a volunteer had taken up to Dr. Micco at Point Vicente Animal Hospital earlier this year! Again, I have no doubt that we are all connected!

I applaud Karen. Tomi, Myrna and the SBBS board, along with our membership and sponsors, for supporting SBBS efforts. By purchasing raffle tickets, paying your membership dues, supporting our SBBS fundraiser/Silent Auction, making individual donations for our publications or website, volunteering your time for community outreach events or to be a board member and by supporting SBBS programs and our sponsors, all of these DO make a difference! There was a need, and we thank Dive N' Surf for their call to action!

