

# BLUE OCEAN DIVERS

## NEWSLETTER

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## WELCOME TO OUR APRIL NEWSLETTER

Did you know that it is now Spring? The calendar says it is and the pace of the dive center says it is, now we just have to wait or the weather to agree! We have lots happening here at Blue Ocean Divers.

Did you hear? There is going to be a GREAT Demo day at Dutch Springs this June 14<sup>th</sup>. Come to Dutch and see and try all the latest from Sherwood Scuba, Henderson, Princeton Tec, Genesis and Akona! Whether you're in the market for a new regulator, dive light or gear bag it will all be there so you should be there too!

If you can't wait for the demo day at Dutch we have the new Sherwood SR1 regulator in stock. This is a kicking high end; high flow; low Work Of Breathing; warm water cold water regulator recreation, technical - do it all regulator. Can't wait to read all the details, [click here](#).

A high end regulator that's super good in cold conditions too much for you? Are you only a warm water diver? How about the new [Aqua Lung Mikron](#)? A very attractive, very good regulator for the warm water diver.

Happy reading,

Mach10 Mike

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### Scuba Challenge

On Monday, March 24<sup>th</sup> Blue Ocean Divers held our SMB deployment Challenge. Mike Ballis was the winner of the challenge and received a Surface Marker Buoy (SMB) and finger reel. This was our last pool challenge for this winter. We will resume the challenges next fall. You will have the whole dive season to better your current skills and learn new ones before we challenge you again.

### Trivia Contest

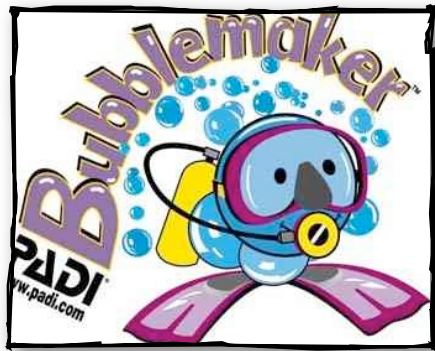


When you looked at the questions, did you get them both correct? Did you include both your first and last name? If you forget to fill in your name we can't pull your name out of the old dive hood! Many of you participated and did get both of them correct. Well, the names are in the old dive hood and the name is...Troy Shaver. So Troy, come on in to Blue Ocean Divers and pick up your tee-shirt.

How can you win a Blue Ocean Divers tee-shirt? Go to our website and answer the 2 Trivia questions. Upon submittal you will be told if you found the correct answers to the questions. Your chances in the drawing will be based on the number of questions you answered correctly. If you answer both questions correctly you will have 2 chances in the drawing. If you answer only one correctly you will get one chance in the drawing.

Breakout your RDPs, review your buoyancy concepts. There even may be questions from the new Digital Underwater Photography Specialty. If it's been awhile since you looked at any of your course books, a PADI Encyclopedia of Recreational Diving book might be a good investment. Good Luck to one and all.

### PADI BubbleMaker Birthday Party



Have you been looking for a very unique birthday party for your 8 to 10 year old? Then sign them up for a PADI BubbleMaker Birthday Party. The birthday celebration will be a BubbleMaker experience and a party celebration with birthday cake and party favors for all party goers. During the pool/BubbleMaker experience the children will learn a few basic scuba skills and spend an hour underwater experiencing the joys of breathing underwater while playing lots of underwater games. Medical forms and releases must be completed by all children with parent signature prior to the start of party. Contact Blue Ocean Divers for all the details.

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### New for your Dive Locker

#### Sherwood's new SR1 Regulator is in Stock

SR<sup>1</sup> high performance regulator is available in stores in January 2008. With superior breathing performance of less than 0.5 joules/liter, W.O.B. at 165 fsw, 62.5 RMV, the SR<sup>1</sup> is the most technologically advanced regulator Sherwood Scuba has produced in its storied 50 year history.

The SR<sup>1</sup> utilizes a pneumatically balanced second stage, with a two-piece flow-through first stage piston for precise optimum balance and intermediate pressure control. The first stage is environmentally sealed featuring a dry-sealed spring chamber, two high pressure ports, five low pressure ports on a 360 degree swivel and is compatible with a yoke or DIN attachment. The second stage contains a SMART demand lever and floating crown which reacts to depressurization and relieves the load on the seat, extending seat life while promoting consistent performance.



Importantly, the second stage employs a unique single adjustment point to simultaneously set opening effort and high flow performance with one motion--the need to make separate adjustments has therefore been eliminated. The size of the SR<sup>1</sup> control knob has also been optimized to enable easy location and operation, even for a diver wearing gloves.

The SR<sup>1</sup> packs its advanced technology into a compact case which employs contemporary styling and utilizes a multitude of cutting edge materials.

- Less than 0.5 joules/liter, W.O.B., at 165 fsw, 62.5 RMV
- Pneumatically balanced 2nd stage
- SMART Demand Lever - reacts to depressurization and relieves load on seat, extending seat life while promoting consistent regulation.
- Large flexible purge cover.
- One touch performance adjustment.
- Two-piece 1st stage piston for precise optimum balance and intermediate pressure control.
- Dry sealed ambient pressure chamber.
- Five low pressure ports located on a 360° swivel.
- Two high pressure ports.

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### Aqualung Mikron

Aqua Lung has just released of Mikron – the smallest and lightest weight regulator on the market today. Weighing in at just 26 oz. (din) and 31 oz. (yoke), the traveling diver will benefit tremendously. Even more amazing is that warm water performance is not sacrificed by the extreme compactness of the regulator. Its balanced first and second stages produce exceptional breathing performance.



Features of Mikron:

- Compact dimensions and low weight blend comfort with a unique diving experience
- A new, braided hose, weighing less than 5 oz., provides flexibility, comfort and excellent packability
- The Mikron is available in two colors including the new pink vanilla
- The pink vanilla version features a new, smaller Comfo-bite™ mouthpiece designed for smaller mouths. If you are one of those that doesn't care for the Comfo-bite's™ silicone bridge which fits across the upper palate, it can now be detached
- The first stage is a balanced diaphragm type that sports one HP port (7/16) and 4 MP ports (3/8)
- The second stage is pneumatically balanced to provide top performance
- The second stage has an adjustment knob that allows the diver to optimize the opening effort. In the "Mini" position, the opening effort is increased, which is ideal for avoiding free flows. In the "Maxi" position, the inhalation effort is reduced, reducing the work of breathing
- The reduced size and weight makes the Mikron the ideal choice for children and young adults

### Educational Opportunities

#### Nitrox Certification

Are you looking for longer bottom times? Are you coming to Curacao with us? For our trip to Curacao Nitrox is offered free for the week, so Blue Ocean Divers is offering PADI Nitrox certification for free. You just have to buy the training supplies. If you are not one of the lucky folks coming with us for all of the fun and fellowship in Curacao you can still enjoy the benefits of longer NDL times and shorter surface intervals with Nitrox.

The next Nitrox class is scheduled for April 5<sup>th</sup>, come in today and sign-up.

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### Rescue Diver

Do you feel comfortable with your dive equipment after your PADI Open Water certification? Are you understanding some of the different underwater environments after your PADI Advanced Open Water certification? Do you want to be able to help other divers if they begin to have difficulty? Then it's time for YOU to sign-up for the PADI Rescue Diver program! Our Rescue Class starts April 27<sup>th</sup> and will complete the open water scenarios on May 17<sup>th</sup> at Dutch Springs.

### The Unknown Diver

Hello Divers,

At last Spring is here! Recent reports claim the surface temp on Skaneateles Lake is hovering around 87 degrees. The visibility in Cayuga Lake is about 100 feet. The remains of a World War II German U boat were found off Salt Point in Seneca Lake. It is in 15 feet of water and is easily assessable as a shore dive. This news is just too good to be true! Unfortunately its not, April Fool!

I doubt anyone was fooled by this report, but let me take three minutes of your time to advise of a potential goof that may not be so obvious. The disingenuous dive shop.

With several confined water training sessions complete, some of the fortunate few may be heading south, way south, to complete the mandatory open water dives. If these dives have been coordinated through Blue Ocean Divers, no worries. If not read on. If you are booking certification dives, or advanced training, through an unknown dive center, ask to see current credentials. Unfortunately there are some free agents in fins. Pose a few questions. Is the dive center affiliated with your training agency? Are the instructors fully qualified and insured? If the answer is no, you will not receive accreditation. You will however be positively buoyant in your checking account! This is not the time to be bashful. You are placing your safety and hard earned dollars in their hands. None of us would think twice about knowing the history of a used car or the selling dealership, before we signed on the dotted line. Clearly, this is much more important. Do a little homework. Better yet let Mike, Patty, or PADI, hook you up. You will be safe, certified, not disappointed.

Never dive over your head

"The Unknown Diver"

### New from On-line

#### Links to St. Lawrence Dive Site Information

With the price of gas are you thinking about diving closer to home this summer? Do you know that we have one of the best fresh water dive destinations right here in our own backyard? It's the St. Lawrence River! What to know more about the dive sites we dive every summer? Check out St <http://www.saveontarioshipwrecks.on.ca/News/Shipwreck%20articles.html> and see what there is to explore in the St. Lawrence River!

#### Dive Links for Kids

Do you have a budding diver that just can't get enough of the oceans and all of the critters and life they contain? Here is a link that they should enjoy. It's Jonathan Bird's Blue World website. The URL is <http://www.blueworldtv.com/>. Direct from their website here is what they are all about. "Jonathan Bird's Blue World is an educational family-oriented underwater adventure series being co-produced by [Jonathan Bird Productions](#) and [Oceanic Research Group](#). It is hosted by dynamic naturalist and underwater photographer Jonathan Bird. The format is magazine style, with short 7-10 minute segments each containing a complete adventure story with an educational component." Check it out. I think the kid in all of us will enjoy it.

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### Travel

#### Florida Keys

Are you ready to try something new? Well we at Blue Ocean Divers are always looking for a better dive experience and we think we have found it. This year we will be going to the southern end of Key Largo and dive with Conch Republic and stay with Coconut Palms just around the corner. This trip will be a little more than in years gone by but the quality of accommodations is significantly better. That's the good news. The bad news is Coconut Palm is a small resort with 400 feet of sandy beach front on the bay side with only 11 rooms. I have booked 8 of these rooms so we most likely will not be able to grow this trip.



This trip is on the books and you can join us August 17<sup>th</sup> through the 23<sup>rd</sup>. It will be our usual Florida itinerary. Arrive Sunday, dive 2 tank boat dives, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday. Leave for home on Saturday. The trip price includes double diver lodging with continental breakfast and diving, tanks and weights included. This year the cost is \$795 per person, double diver. A non-refundable deposit of \$200 will hold your spot. Don't delay, once this trip is full it's full.

#### St. Lawrence River



We'll be going to the "river" six times this summer. Three times will be strictly shore diving and the other trips will be with Abucs Scuba in Brockville, Canada. The shore diving will be bare bones. We will provide a dive guide that will get you to the dive sites and explain/brief the dive. You will be responsible for all diving necessities, transportation, meals and lodging.

The trips with Abucs Scuba will provide three boat dives on Saturday, two boat dives on Sunday, lunch on the boat Saturday and lodging Saturday night. You will be responsible for providing all of your own dive equipment including three tanks (for Saturday), air fills and weights. Of course, if your dive locker is a little lacking, Blue Ocean Divers can provide any equipment you are missing or a complete weekend package.

Don't miss out on experiencing the best fresh water dive destination in the USA! Come and dive the St. Lawrence River.

#### Sunset Waters in Curacao

Time is up we are on our way to Sunset Waters. We have a full crew going and we are going to have the time of our lives. This will be the largest group we have taken to Curacao. We are planning on many extra certifications from Open Water to Advanced Open Water to Rescue and even a specialty or two. Check out the May newsletter for a trip report of the fun, sun, sand and water activities.

This is such a popular trip we are already planing a return to Sunset Waters February 14 through 21, 2009. If you missed this year's trip a \$500 deposit will hold your place for our February 2009 trip! ***Don't miss this trip!***

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### Calendar

Check it out for upcoming diving and training opportunities just right for you.

Date	Activity
Apr 5, 2008	Curacao Pre-Trip party
Apr 5, 2008	PADI Enriched Air Specialty Course
Apr 13, 2008	PADI Open Water Class starts
Apr 13, 2008	PADI Seal Team
April 12 – 19, 2008	Sunset Waters, Curacao
Apr 27, 2008	PADI Rescue Class starts
May 3, 2008	PADI Emergency First Responder
May 11, 2008	PADI Discover Scuba
May 31 - June 1	Dutch Springs Certification weekend
Jun 3, 2008	PADI Open Water Class starts
Jun 3, 2008	PADI Seal Team
Jun 7, 2008	St. Lawrence Shore Dive weekend - USA
Jun 14, 2008	Demo Day at Dutch Springs
Jun 14, 2008	DAN Oxygen Provider class
Jun 27, 2008	St. Lawrence Boat weekend - Canada
August 17 - 23	Key Largo dive trip with Conch Republic & Coconut Palm Inn

### Store Hours

Monday – Friday Noon until 8:00 p.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Sunday Closed