

BLUE OCEAN DIVERS

NEWSLETTER

We are Expanding Training Offerings <i>Expand/Refine your skills with Specialty courses</i> Click here	Cool PodCasts <i>Want to have HD video delivered to your computer once a month?</i> Click here	News from Tug <i>Checkout the stories and tales from our very own "Unknown Diver"</i> Click here	Calendar <i>Don't miss all the happening at Blue Ocean Divers</i> Click here
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WELCOME TO OUR MARCH NEWSLETTER

We are back! Sunset Waters was it's usual extraordinary experience! There was lots of diving and fun for all. Personally I fit in 22 dives, while some else managed to do 32 dives in the 6 days. Tom's fullest day of diving saw him do 8 dives with over 7 hours of bottom time. Now that's what even I call a hard core diver!

Now you may be asking what made the diving so much fun... Well, when you see a pregnant sea horse, LOTS of eels, eagle rays, squid, lobster and octopus it's hard not to be excited about the diving. Of course we saw all the other "usual" reef critters.

We have several people add some training to the fun. Grandpa Tom's very 1st certification as a new instructor was his granddaughter, Skylar. This was very special for everyone! I had the good fortune to certify and introduce my future daughter in law to this wonderful sport we all love so much. We have new Nitrox divers, night divers and 4 new AOW certifications were earned.

I have over 700 still images from everyone to sort through and share. I have about 1/2 hour of edited video that needs an ending and music added to it. Patti is creating the scrapbook and I'm taking a break from editing video to write the newsletter. We had another marvelous trip and now we ensure the memories are there to share with everyone whether or not you were able to be with us.

Our next trip will be in early August. It was going to be Mexico but the recent news from there has us questioning our safety. Maybe we will have to try somewhere else if we can't get assurances of our safety. Stay tuned. We will have a destination by next month.

Happy Diving,

Mach10 Mike

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News from the Dive Center

Special offer for new divers from Nekton Cruises

Get up to \$600 worth of FREE SCUBA GEAR with your booking of a Nekton Cruise!

Calling all newly certified divers! Buy your qualifying gear and get up to \$600 off your cruise with Nekton Cruises. It couldn't be simpler, buy your gear, book your cruise and save up to \$600! Nekton will help you take the next step with your own scuba gear and an awesome live-aboard vacation in the warm clear waters of the Caribbean. Enjoy 20 to 30 effortless dives in one week. Dive, eat, dive, eat, dive, sleep, dive, eat, dive, sleep and dive some more. Four to five dives is routine but the diving is anything but routine. See beautiful reefs, colorful corals, fish and reef creatures of every kind and lots of large pelagic critters like turtles, rays and even sharks.

Don't hesitate! You must take your cruise within six months (180 days) of the certification date written on your Open Water "C" card. You must also book your trip thru your participating dive center at the time of your scuba gear purchase. Regulators, BCD's, dive computers and submersible gauges are considered qualifying equipment. Hang onto your receipts. A copy must be sent to Nekton with your reservation. It's that easy! Get your Free Scuba Gear today!

- Qualifying gear including regulators, BCD's, dive computers and submersible gauges.
- The cruise sailing date must be within 180 days of your open water certification card date.
- Must provide a copy of certification card with legible certification date.
- Must provide copies of qualified dive shop receipts.
- In-Store (Brick & Mortar) dive center purchases only, online purchases not qualified.
- Promotion must be booked through a Nekton affiliated Dive store.
- Promotion is only for Open Water Certifications.

**Book a cruise at the same time and receive a matching credit for up to \$600. **

**Dive accident insurance and travel insurance are required for participants in this discount program. **

Really good PodCast

Have you logged into iTunes and checked out this free podcast? This month they had video of sea horses to just die for.

Have you joined the growing group of PodCast'ers yet? Do you like watching short videos of you favorite pastime - scuba diving? Go to iTunes and subscribe to DiveFilm HD Video. This is a free podcast with lots of BEAUTIFUL underwater footage. After watching a couple of these short videos I realized just how little I've seen underwater.

Not into the iTunes thing?? Go to http://divefilm.com/dive_films/indexbd12.html# and you can download the videos in various formats to match your internet connection speed. Check it out! You will be amazed!

Scuba Challenge

Looks like Chris A. showed everyone how to control their buoyancy! He won the February Scuba Challenge and walked away with a new underwater slate. If you were not there why not? It's a great time just getting wet and having fun blowing bubbles in a pool. We through in a little challenge to keep everyone on their toes.

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March's scuba challenge will be another repeat from a big hit last year, bags & reels. Come and learn how to deploy a SMB from depth making it a no brainer for you to hold exactly 15 feet for any safety stop. If you win the challenge you will go home with a new SMB and finger reel!

Sign-up includes all the fun at the pool and a tank of air. Need gear? No worries Blue Ocean Divers can rent you the gear for the night for a very special price. Stop in today and sign-up today!

Trivia Contest



My apologies but due to MAJOR PC problems stretching well into February I was not able to update the trivia questions. Well, I know have a backup iMac so all is good! So here we go, the January winner is Chris Arnold and the February winner is Mike Wick. So Chris & Mike come on in and get a bottle of defog!

How's your supply of mask defog? 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. Good Luck to one and all.

Educational Opportunities

Specialty of the Month

Want to keep your dive skills current? Do you want to learn more about our wonderful sport to better enjoy it? Blue Ocean Divers is taking a page from PADI and will be offering a Specialty of the month this year. We will do our best to match the PADI specialty each month. We will have to make minor concessions for our very "dive friendly" weather here in the Northeast.

Our March Specialty is Equipment Specialty. Plan now to join us on March 14th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and learn what you can do to save a dive. You will learn the basics of regulator design and how it works. We will also make suggestions as to what no diver should be without on a dive trip. You will get good ideas of what you can adjust and correct to save a dive verse when a service technician's skills and training is needed to affix the repair.

PADI Open Water Diver

Do you have a friend that you would like to see as your new dive buddy? Are they getting cabin fever already? Are they looking for something that will get them thinking warm sunny thoughts? Enroll them now in our next PADI Open Water Diver course starting March 8th.

Our February class is coming to an end and the March class is filling. Enroll them today in our PADI Open Water diver course starting Sunday, March 8th before time gets away from you.

The Unknown Diver

Hello Divers

At long last the 2009 season is here! All around the garage area drivers are looking to improve their performance for the new year. Oops, Did I say drivers? Wrong sport. I must have been thinking about NASCAR. However my brain bubble makes a great segue for SCUBA Diving. Hover with me for three minutes as I share my humble opinion.

The racing crowd is always looking for tricks and tweaks to gain an edge. Much effort is placed on resource management. Usually on saving tires and gasoline. As divers we also need to be aware of our resource management.

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For us the key is conserving air and endurance. In our Open Water Diver training we learned air depletion is dependent on multiple factors; depth, buoyancy, physical exertion and temperature. The easiest to address is depth. I have found by conducting my dive a bit shallower or following the divemaster just a few feet above will save precious PSI. As for buoyancy, being properly weighted streamlines our position reducing drag and fatigue. A huge endurance bandit is being cold. Always wear the proper exposure suit. Remember, "dress for the dive, not for the deck". In our local ponds and puddles it is not uncommon to experience a twenty degree temperature difference from boat to bottom. That 3 mil sporty shorty will never stop the chill like a full seven mil. Blue Ocean Divers is staffed and equipped to help you tune and tweak any diving resource. Continuing education, equipment sales and service, and a wide selection of wet or dry suits. Stop by and see Mike and Patty, they will hook you up!

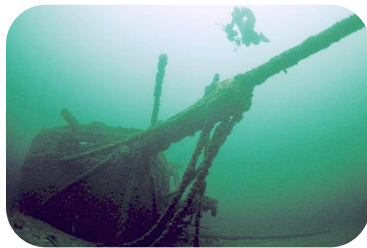
P.S. It has been a while since I mentioned by good friends Dive Master Earl and his wife Sweetie. Seems like the lovebirds just celebrated another anniversary. Sweetie offered up she would like to go someplace where she hadn't been in a while. Earl suggested she try the kitchen! That's when the fight started.

Learn More, Learn More often... (but never dive over your head)

"The Unknown Diver"

Travel

St. Lawrence River



The trips to the "River" for 2008 are over. Did you explore the local historical diving the St. Lawrence River has to offer? Did you grow your dive skills by earning your PADI AOW while diving in the "River"? We were able to introduce many of you to the natural wonders and relaxation the St. Lawrence River has to offer. If you missed the fun we shared in 2008, plan now to join us in 2009.

Our trips in 2009 will be with Abucs Scuba doing three boat dives on Saturday, two boat dives on Sunday, lunch on Saturday and lodging Saturday night. You will be responsible for providing all of your own dive equipment including weights and three tanks. We will get air fills in Canada for Sunday. 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. The calendar has all the dates so mark your calendar NOW and don't miss a minute of the fun! The best fresh water dive destination in the USA is the St. Lawrence River, right here in our own backyard! Come and dive the St. Lawrence River.

Links to St. Lawrence Dive Site Information

Gas prices are coming down. Are you thinking about getting back on the road and diving local dive sites 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! Do you want to know more about the dive sites we dive every summer? Check out http://www.saveontarioshipwrecks.on.ca/News/Shipwreck_articles.html and see what there is to explore in the St. Lawrence River! Watch our calendar for our next trip will with ABUCS Scuba in Brockville Canada.

Warm-water Dive Trips

AquaCat Live-Aboard

All spots sold!

We dive the Bahama waters of the Exumas from May 2nd through May 9th 2009 aboard the Aqua Cat liveaboard. The Aqua Cat is a 102' catamaran making this boat very calm and stable.

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The Aqua Cat offers a leisurely liveaboard scuba diving and snorkeling adventure cruising from Nassau, Bahamas to the remote islands of the Exumas, and especially the Exuma Cays Land and Sea Park, the most pristine area in all the Bahamas. Imagine sinking your toes into sugar sand, diving among the lemon sharks and sting rays, or hiking the trails of pirates and bootleggers of years gone by. No crowds, no set itineraries, nothing to do but sit back, relax and choose from an incredible variety of liveaboard activities including scuba diving, snorkeling, kayaking, sunbathing, and island exploring. We'll have a photo story for you when we get back.

August Trip

We are moving our August trip to the first week of the month. We are going... but where. We STILL looking hard at destinations in Mexico, Honduras and the Virgin Islands for this trip. Everytime we think we have the final destination picked something pops up that causes us more research. This trip will get resolved before the next newsletter.

Calendar

Date	Activity
March 8 th	Day light saving time starts - don't forget to reset your clocks
March 8 th	PADI Open Water Divers course Module 1
March 14 th	Equipment Specialty course
March 27 - 29	Beneath The Sea, Secaucus NJ
May 2 nd - 9 th	AquaCat Live-aboard, Bahamas (Full)
August 1 st - 8 th	Not Florida - Watch this space!!!
May 30 -31	Dutch Springs Open Water weekend
July 11 - 12	Dutch Springs Open Water weekend
August 22 - 23	Dutch Springs Open Water weekend
October 3 - 4	Dutch Springs Open Water weekend
October 24 - 25	Dutch Springs Open Water weekend
June 13 - 14	St. Lawrence River trip with Abucs Scuba
July 4 - 5	St. Lawrence River trip with Abucs Scuba
July 25 - 26	St. Lawrence River trip with Abucs Scuba
August 15 - 16	St. Lawrence River trip with Abucs Scuba
September 5 - 6	St. Lawrence River trip with Abucs Scuba
October 17 - 18	St. Lawrence River trip with Abucs Scuba
November 4 - 7	DEMA, Orlando, FL

Store Hours

Monday – Friday Noon until 8:00 p.m.

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

Sunday Closed