



NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM DIVE CLUB, INC. NEWSLETTER

December 2004/January 2005

NEADC Website: www.NEADC.org

NEADC GENERAL MEETINGS

Immersion Theater at New England Aquarium
Wednesday, December 15th, 2004
6:30 p.m.

ANNUAL SHOW AND TELL

Club members present their stuff! Contact Al Bozza at programs@neadc.org if you would like to be a presenter.

Immersion Theater at New England Aquarium
Wednesday, January 19th, 2005
6:30 p.m.

THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS

Presented by Al Bozza. Perhaps the only great natural paradise remaining in the world in a near pristine condition. Come see why the Galapagos Islands have always captured the imagination of the world. Four NEADC members spent an incredible week in October on the Galapagos Aggressor - cruising with whale sharks, playing with sea lions, diving with hammerhead sharks, dolphins, turtles, rays, and more giant green morays than you can imagine. Come to this informative presentation and let us share our most unforgettable week with you.

RESULTS OF THE NOVEMBER ELECTION NEADC OFFICERS FOR 2005

On November 17, 2004, the following slate of Nominees were elected to hold office for 2005:

President.....	Mike Schruben
Vice President.....	Scott Matey
Business Manager.....	Julia Cichowski
Secretary.....	Anna Krowczynska
Program Director.....	Al Bozza
Boat Dive Coordinator.....	Leah Neal
Shore Dive Coordinator.....	Rick Rosa
Membership Director.....	Trish Katzman
Environmental Director.....	Alicia Lenci
Webmaster.....	Steve Whitford
Newsletter Editor.....	Brad Bonn

INFORMAL MEETINGS

January Informal: Since we do not have a January newsletter and have cancelled the scheduled informals for January, the officers of the NEADC would like to have a social get-together for dive club members and friends at Jose McIntyre's (160 Milk St., Boston - walking distance from the Aquarium) on January 5th, 2005 at 6:30 pm. The \$75 normally spent on the informal will be used to purchase eight collecting trip raffle prizes that will be raffled off that evening. Come join our club for an enjoyable night out. For directions or more info contact Al Bozza (508)-528-4933.

The **February Informal** will be held on Wednesday, February 2nd, at 6:30 pm, at the home of Anna and Bryce Flynn in Foxboro.

Directions from Boston: Rte 95 South toward Providence to Exit 8 for Foxboro and Sharon. Right at end of ramp. Take 1st right onto Hill Street. Follow Hill Street as it bends to the left, then right again (do NOT go straight up the hill into the woods). 30 Hill is on the left, a blue house with a full-length front porch.

Directions from points West and South: Rte 495 South to 95 North to Exit 8 for Foxboro and Sharon. Left at end of ramp. Go over highway, take 1st right onto Hill Street. Follow Hill Street as it bends to the left, then right again (do NOT go straight up the hill into the woods). 30 Hill is on the left, a blue house with a full-length front porch. Parking on the street is OK.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Submit your news for the next Newsletter by
Monday, January 24, 2004!

This is for the **FEBRUARY EDITION** of the NEADC Newsletter. Submissions must be in writing, preferably via email to newsletter@neadc.org. Thank you!

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**2004 New England Aquarium
Dive Club Officers**

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environmental@neadc.org

Webmaster

Steve Whitford
webmaster@neadc.org

NEADC Voice Mail

Please call (617) 973-0240.

NEADC Website

Look for updated information on our website, www.neadc.org, graciously hosted by Jake and Linda Richter.

FROM YOUR WEBMASTER Steve Whitford

Throughout the New England off-season, there are still plenty of dive-related activities. There are several events (which are on the constantly updated events calendar) around here over the winter. Plus there's the best part of belonging to the club in the winter - less people at the meetings=better chance to win the raffles! You can also keep track of any website updates by looking at the left sidebar on the front page. It lists the most updated pages, and when they were changed. If anyone has anything to add, is going diving, or wants to arrange a carpool to get to conventions, send me an email and I'll put it on the website or use the forum.

Finally, congratulations to all the new officers! I've put up a list of who's been elected to what position on the website, and I'll see you at the meetings!

FROM YOUR BOAT DIVE COORDINATOR Rick Rosa

Shore Diving: After taking a year off to coordinate boat diving, I'm taking another shot at shore diving. As always, I thank you all for your support of the officers and the Club. Just as in years past, we will have a Dive Planning Meeting in early spring (usually the last week in March) to map out the dive schedule for the upcoming season. Please think about attending and volunteering to lead a dive. No experience is necessary (you don't even need to be a diver to coordinate)! To entice people to show up, we provide a nice dinner - Chinese buffet usually. If you have specific dives or dates in mind, please email me in advance so I can block them on the calendar (Father's day dive, Halloween dive, etc). This will help cut down on the chaos of the planning meeting. With your help, I'm really looking forward to another great year of shore diving!

Shore Dive Leader T-Shirts: I still have a long list of people who haven't received their shore dive leader shirts. See me at the informal/formal meetings to get yours if you are on the list. I'll be sending out an email shortly to the rest of you I owe. For 2004 leaders, drop me an email and I may have an extra shirt. Any suggestions for gifts welcome. Recent ideas include water bottles, gear bags, beach towels, and small dive gear items.

Warm Water Diving: I'm going back to Ft. Lauderdale next week with a small group from the club to do some wreck/reef diving. If you haven't been diving in the area or are looking for information, please ask me to fill you in. The diving is fantastic, and there is plenty to do afterwards and for the non-diving crowd. This is one of my favorite East Coast destinations. If there is enough interest, I'm planning a (cheap) fall trip back down and would like to take a group from the club. Email me if interested.

Happy Diving!

FROM YOUR SHORE DIVE COORDINATOR Genevieve Stewart

Thank you to all who lead shore dives this year and to all the members who joined us on the dives. It is not too soon to plan dives for the 2005 dive season.

If you have a favorite dive site and the urge to go diving, contact your 2005 shore dive coordinator, Rick Rosa, and let him know you're going out. Your dive will be added to the calendar and before you know it, you'll have a handful of divers joining you. It's that easy.

Be sure to contact me (Genevieve@pgdive.com) in the future regarding free 'bleach dives' on Monday nights at the Newton YMCA. This is free to all NEADC members and you're welcome to come and test gear, review skills or just blow bubbles.

Happy New Year!

FROM YOUR SECRETARY Anna Krowczynska

The weather in New England is no longer cooperating with us wet suit divers who still feel the urge to get submerged, so before packing up my gear for winter and tuning up my skis I decided for one more dive trip. I signed up for the trip to Cozumel organized by PG Dive. Hint: if you are interested in the ID all of those tropical fish, pick the trip in which NEAq staff participate. We were lucky to have Holly Bourbon, Senior Aquarist, in our midst to answer all those questions – What the heck is this creature???

I love the worry-free dive trips organized by dive shops, Jonathan, or Al. You just need to show up and have a good time – no work required. Everything is taken care of, dives arranged to the best spots, even topside attractions are booked in advance.

This was my first experience with drift diving – and I fell in love with it! You just effortlessly drift in warm blue water, the fish pass you by and you enjoy the scenery. During the night dive, I felt like an astronaut drifting in space (this is the closest I will ever come to space travel). Only once the current was so strong that I had trouble with taking pictures, because marine life was disappearing faster than I could point my camera.

But the best part was swimming through the big coral mounds. The Punta Sur is one of the deepest reefs in Cozumel and the home of “Devil’s Throat,” a narrow tunnel lined with red sponges, which is located inside the area’s largest coral mound. After swimming through it, you come out facing the deep blue at 130 feet – quite an unforgettable sight. I also liked Polancar Gardens with its many coral canyons, huge brain coral and groupers, Horse Eyed Jacks, and large schools of grunts.

This was also my first experience with an all inclusive dive resort. Our resort, Fiesta Americana, was located eight miles from downtown San Miguel but in close proximity to the most popular reefs located near the south end of the island. All inclusive meant that all food and drinks were included (unless you wanted extra fancy alcohol in your Daiquiris or Margaritas). Unfortunately, because November is off-season, only one restaurant was open. The breakfasts and lunches were good (divine selection of desserts), but dinners stunk, so for most nights we opted for dinner on the town. Again, it’s important to have somebody who visited the place before and knows all the best restaurants.

Cozumel is a diver’s paradise – San Miguel has over 80 dive shops and numerous boat operators take divers to their destinations. The only drawback is cruise ships that make Cozumel a must-stop on their itinerary. They all would make great shipwrecks for divers to enjoy.

Wishing you happy and healthy Holidays and great diving in the next season.

FROM YOUR NEWSLETTER EDITOR Kerry Hurd

Thank you to all who contributed to the newsletter. Please send your submissions to newsletter@neadc.org. Thanks!

The annual benefit for the Oceanic Research Group takes place on Saturday, April 2, 2005. The Guest Speakers will be Jonathan Bird talking about the making of “Sharks of the Ocean Desert,” and Ed Jameson with his amazing 3-D pictures and slides. Check out www.oceanicresearch.org/benefit.htm for more information and directions.

FROM YOUR PROGRAM DIRECTOR Al Bozza

MARCH 19th - 26th 2005 - ALL NEW WHALE SHARK EXPEDITIONS OF HONDURAS - SHARK DIVER LODGE- \$1895. Discover the shark diving adventure of a lifetime - an encounter with the ocean’s largest shark, the Whale Shark. The new inclusive “Shark Diver Lodge,” located in the crystal waters of the Caribbean in the Honduras, is the latest amazing shark dive destination. Little was known about this site until just recently, when once again reports from local fishermen and scientists came in about these magnificent animals being just off the coast. Absolute Divers visited the site in early 2004, where diving with the Whale Sharks truly is an incredible experience. This is your chance to be one of the first shark divers to encounter these 30-50 foot leviathans in 100-foot visibility and all just a short 5-hour average flight away. While you are there, fish for world-class Tarpon, Snook and Bonefish; dive the multitude of regular reefs surrounding the island; or just sit on the white sands of the Caribbean and soak up the sun. It is all included. Located just off the coast of Honduras, in the warm, clear waters of the Caribbean, our inclusive Shark Diver Lodge features three dive boats, for unlimited regular diving along reefs, walls, and open water pinnacles. Discover fan corals, Groupers, Spotted Eagle Rays, and more. Plus enjoy roomy accommodations in your private, tropical waterfront bungalows. Our lodge also features kayaks, great food, and a game room with pool tables and satellite television. Only two (2) spots left!!

For information, please contact Al Bozza at (617) 212-9108, programs@neadc.org.

FROM YOUR VICE-PRESIDENT Dick Whitehouse

Congratulations to all new and returning members of the board. It has been a rewarding experience for me to hold various offices for several years and I am sure that you all will enjoy guiding the Club with new and exciting ideas. Good Luck!
Capt. Dick

FROM YOUR ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS DIRECTOR: CoastSweep 2004 Alicia Lenci

Many thanks to all the participants at both our Fall 2004 Fort Wetherill and Canoe Beach Cleanups. Although divers tend to be more aware of the problems of marine debris and remove trash from each dive, new divers might need to be reminded. Not only do we have to be careful with the picnic items we bring to the beach (always carry in-carry out), we need to always take just a few moments before we leave to gather any trash that might be there. The best way to do that is to make it a part of your shore diving check off list. After your diving, take 5 minutes to remove some deadly marine debris from the shoreline. Fishing line and bait bags are the worst. If you need trash bags and gloves to keep in your automobile, then let me know. Stock up. If you are a frequent shore dive leader you can obtain, from me, extra bags and gloves. You can even stock up on trash data cards and fill them out each time you remove trash - even if it is just a 5-minute cleanup. This is vital; this data is literally being used to revise national maritime disposal policies and is used to advance environment-protecting legislation. Not only have I personally removed trash from stomachs of marine animals and rehabilitated marine animals that were entangled, I have been entangled in fishing line while diving as well.

**Cleanups don't have to be just once a year!
5-Minute Shoreline Cleanups Make a Difference**



Canoe Beach Cleanup 2004



Canoe Beach Cleanup 2004

Along with the usual picnic and fishing trash items removed, also removed were cell phones and television parts. Trish, our membership coordinator, removed over 15 golf balls and a beginner fishing kit (not even opened yet) from one of her dives at Canoe Beach. Didn't make a cleanup this year? Check out the dive calendar for 2005. I usually plan 4 each year. If you can just make one, I recommend the Canoe Beach event. It is our most popular event. Check out the photos (and on the website) to get an idea of how much fun you can have. Special thanks to Anna, our club secretary, for taking photos and Michael Schruben for providing fun critter display and touch tanks. The club also provided healthy snacks, sandwiches, and beverages. All our participants received one of the new NEADC water bottles. Thank you to Fred Calhoun and Veronica Atlantis for donating some of their published books for our lucky volunteers. Thank you to the staff at the NEU Marine Lab for their continued joint effort in making it such a fun-filled day. This year Mike Schruben and I set up and donated some tropical fish we collected in RI for their new 100-gallon tank for their up and coming outreach education center (in the bunker), so be sure to join us in 2005 to see how much they've grown.



Touch Tank Canoe Beach 2004



Closer Look Tank showing 2004 Tropicals



Volunteer shaded lounge Canoe 2004



Volunteer divers recording and recycling trash Canoe 2004



The club provided healthy foods to volunteers

FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR Trish Katzman

Over the past year, you have heard about our efforts to raise funds for the New England Aquarium due to their financial hard times. Here's a summary of our Club's fundraising efforts and Aquarium projects we successfully funded.

Our Dive Club's Effort to Help: During the December 2004 Informal Meeting, the club officers decided to establish a project to raise funds for the Aquarium. Instead of collecting money and sending it to the Aquarium as a lump sum, we gathered a list of important projects they planned for this year but were cut due to budget constraints. The idea is to directly fund a project.

How we selected Projects: To get the ball rolling, we selected our first project by an officer vote. As the first half of the year progressed, the officers voted on the second and third, but smaller, projects to keep the ball rolling. By July, we extended the vote to all members at our General Meeting for the fourth project. Going forward, this is how we plan to select projects.

How we raised Funds: The most significant revenue generator is a three-way tie among the Giant Ocean Tank (GOT) Raffle last Summer, an anonymous donation, and our own club's direct donation; each bringing to the NEAq Fund \$700 for a total of \$2100. Thank you to Al Bozza for donating his earned GOT Dive for the raffle. Thank you to the anonymous donor, you know who you are. Closely following the revenue amount of these activities is the \$512 we earned from the raffle ticket sales for the Shark Sculpture, initiated and executed by Dick Whitehouse. Thanks, Dick! Our 50/50 Raffle at our monthly General Meetings brought us the next highest revenue for the year with \$456. The last significant revenue generator was an unexpected \$212 from the sale of candy, soda, and water at Sea Rovers last March. Heidi Racine and others did an amazing job generating interest for our fundraising efforts. Thanks so much Heidi and all our members who serviced the booth!

Additional Thanks go out to more people:

**Genevieve Stewart
Paul Lawton
Candy Martinez
Nancy Whitehouse**

You all have made unexpected contributions.

Thanks also to all of you who participated and supported our club's fundraising activities.

New England Aquarium Projects We Successfully Funded During 2004; Total = \$2750.25.

- 1. Three Cownose Rays – \$1350.25 in May 2004 for GOT:** These animals have historically done very well in the GOT. They are extremely popular with visitors, and enhance the elasmobranch collection. Visit the Aquarium and check them out!
- 2. Backup Waterproof Headset System – \$250 in September 2004 for Penguin Exhibit:** Presentations from within the penguin exhibit have become one of the most popular educational programs that the NEAq has to offer. Unfortunately, the headsets that are essential for these programs eventually succumb to the effects of salt water. A backup set prevents the need to cancel these unique interactive penguin presentations.
- 3. One Guitarfish – \$250 in October 2004 for GOT:** This unusual member of the elasmobranch family will be a spectacular addition to the Giant Ocean Tank. **Note:** The Aquarists are in the process of acquiring an Atlantic species of guitarfish.
- 4. Hach Dissolved Oxygen (D.O.) Meter - \$900 in November 2004 for Animal Health Department:** Measuring D.O. in the exhibits and holding systems is one of the most critical water quality tasks performed each day. In addition to exhibit maintenance, these meters are essential for collecting expeditions and off-site holding. A Hach DO meter is great because it can be used without calibration, allows monitoring a tank overnight, and records the Dissolved Oxygen levels at pre-selected time increments into a log file. The current meters can not be used in this way because they lose calibration with time and require the user to swirl them in the water for accurate readings.

FROM YOUR BUSINESS MANAGER Jim Carozza

New England Aquarium Fund Update

3 Cownose Rays	\$1,350.25	1 Penguin Headset	\$250.00
1 Guitar Fish	\$250.00	1 Dissolved Oxygen Meter	\$900.00

Raising over almost \$2,800.00 to buy needed items for the Aquarium? **PRICELESS!**

With the help and support of all the club members, we have raised over \$2,800 for the Aquarium Fund and have made four major purchases on behalf of the club to date. This is because of the monthly 50/50 raffles at the General meetings, Shark Sculpture raffle, decal sales, etc.

With the next item up being a trip with the Aquarium on their collecting trip, we are selling raffle tickets for \$10 each. We will sell only 500 tickets, so buy early and often. Happy Holidays to all! Jim

2005 NEAq COLLECTING TRIP information from Maryhelen Shuman-Groh and Trish Katzman

WIN A SPOT ON THE 2005 SPRING COLLECTING TRIP TO THE CARRIBEAN!!!

You now have an opportunity to purchase a chance for a spot on the 2005 New England Aquarium Collecting Trip to the Cay Sal Banks and Bimini, Bahamas from April 23 - May 2, 2005. Tickets are \$10 each, and there will only be 500 sold. If every member of the dive club purchases one ticket, they will all be sold!

Certified SCUBA divers age 18 and older are eligible. This unusual "working" vacation is open to both beginners and experienced divers, and is a great opportunity to dive with and learn from Aquarium professionals. You will dive and collect at some of the most beautiful underwater sites in the world. The last day of the trip is spent in Miami, preparing fishes for shipment to the New England Aquarium in Boston. After the trip, you can see your hard work showcased at the Aquarium, which entertains and educates more than 1.6 million visitors each year from all over the world.

The Prize Package includes airfare, shipboard accommodations on the R/V Coral Reef II (meals, lodging, cocktails), and up to five dives per day (weights and tanks are provided). Also included is a rare opportunity to dive in the Aquarium's GOT.

For more information and to purchase tickets, contact Maryhelen Shuman-Groh at president@neadc.org.

You can try your luck in the raffle, or pay the full fee to sign up directly for this trip. Trip fees are \$3800 for Aquarium members, and \$3845 for non-members. For more information or to reserve space, call Holly Martel Bourbon, Senior Aquarist/DSO at (617) 973-5248 (Wednesdays through Saturdays), or email Holly at hbourbon@neaq.org. Interested participants are encouraged to reserve early, as space is limited. Trips are subject to change.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We run a research vessel that operates in the Florida Keys Marine Sanctuary and the Bahamas. Many of our projects have a participant element. This puts people shoulder to shoulder with our scientists helping get the work done. It is a way for us to help these guys stay in the field financially. We want to offer these programs to your members. I look forward to your questions. Also please take a look at our non-profit site: www.oceanoutreach.org.

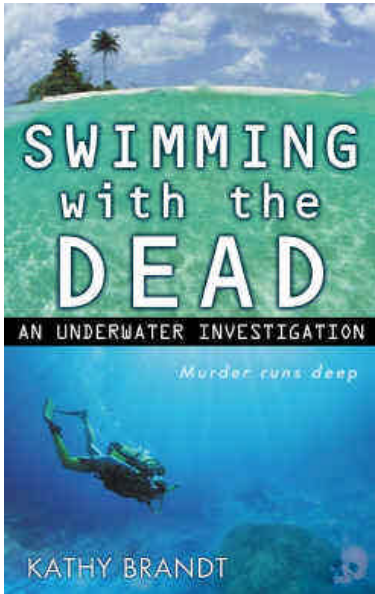
Tim Taylor; Research Vessel Tiburon Inc.; 1107 Key Plaza #299; Key West, FL 33040
(305) 849-0352 cell; (305) 293-9183 voice mail; ttaylor@rvtiburon.com.

I thought you might be interested in our summer scientific diving course called Underwater Research at the Shoals Marine Lab in Maine. Undergraduate students (and others) can earn 4 credits and learn how to use SCUBA as a research tool. We have scholarship and student staff opportunities available.

Check out the course summary at: <http://www.sml.cornell.edu/college/pc-ccur.htm>.

Laurie Johnson, Admissions; Shoals Marine Laboratory; G-14 Stimson Hall; Ithaca, NY 14853
(607) 255-0743; (607) 255-0742 fax; <http://www.sml.cornell.edu>.

Diving into Mystery
By Kathy Brandt



When I decided to plunge into mystery writing, I knew what the “who, what, and where” of my novels would be. I’ve been a scuba diver for almost twenty years and have been sailing in the British Virgin Islands for ten. So my character, police diver and underwater investigator Hannah Sampson, was a natural. I published the first book in my underwater investigation series, *SWIMMING WITH THE DEAD*, in 2003, followed this year by *DARK WATER DIVE* (Penguin Putnam/Signet). My third book, *DANGEROUS DEPTHS* will be released in May 2005. How lucky could I get? I’m doing what I love and writing about it! And even better, the reviewers are calling the books “first rate thrillers, the underwater action top-notch.”

I’ve tried hard to keep the books authentic. I have dived the sites that my character, Hannah Sampson, dives when she sets out to solve heinous crimes, though I admit with relief that I have never encountered a dead body on a dive! Like me, Hannah finds wrecks dark, claustrophobic places, where air tanks clanging off hulls serve to emphasize the fact that she is jailed by steel. She experiences the same fear that I do at depth, when nitrogen narcosis sends her to the edge of panic. I want the reader to feel what Hannah feels when she is caught in a wreck and out of air or swims right into the body of a murder victim.

I’ve also been awe struck in the underwater environment. Most of you know what I mean. It is like being submerged in Alice In Wonderland, gliding under arches blanketed in color, my bubbles catching and sparkling like mercury in the rocks above my head; swimming along underwater walls covered in reef life, the sea floor thousands of feet below. I’ve followed turtles and Manta Rays, played with sea lions, touched Christmas Tree Worms, and encountered Hammerheads that completely ignored my presence.

I want to share this wonder with those who have not experienced it and also let people know that the environment is fragile. As a result my books all have environmental sub-themes, focusing on the damage to coral reefs worldwide, on the decimation of shark populations for a bowl of shark fin soup, and on endangered sea turtles.

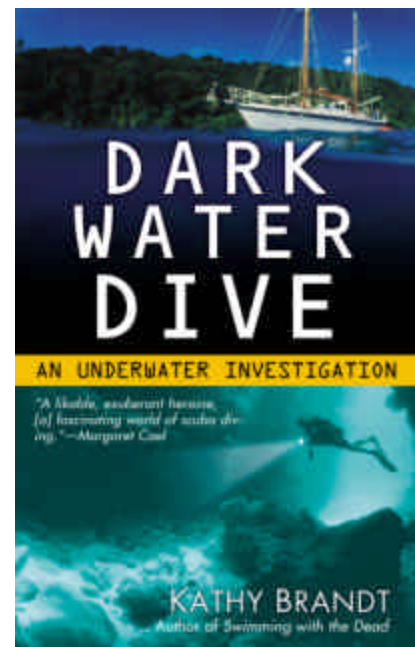
When I started these books, I knew a respectable amount about the ocean environment and the basics of diving. But I knew absolutely nothing about dive rescue and recovery, underwater investigation, or even some of the particulars about reef ecology or sea turtle preservation. I had a lot to learn.

I got certified in dry suits on a snowy day in a Colorado lake, elevation 10,500 feet. I’ve joined rescue and recovery divers for training both in the classroom and in water, murky with sediment, where the diver swims blind. Those divers showed me the ropes—how to interview witnesses, find the last seen point, handle the radio, act as line tender, and develop search patterns.

I learned about evidence retrieval and preservation from the experts, people like Bob Teather who wrote the definitive book on underwater crime scene investigation. By the way, did you know that fingerprints, fibers, even blood can be recovered if the diver handles a weapon or body correctly underwater?

Recently, I accompanied a team of researchers in the Caribbean as they tagged turtles as part of a study that will hopefully provide enough data to change laws. I’ve spent hours in the dusty environmental library in the BVI and days at home buried in articles and research studies about the marine environment. Even that is fun, especially when it all gets turned into mystery.

Kathy Brandt is a mystery writer and a land-locked diver, who lives in Colorado. To find out more, visit her website at <http://www.ksbrandt.com/>. Her books are available on-line (www.Amazon.com and other sites) and in bookstores. Be sure to watch for Kathy’s donated & signed books at upcoming NEADC raffles.



ADVERTISING GUIDELINES

Dive related ads for **NEADC Members** will be free with the following stipulations:

1. Must be current NEADC member in good standing.
2. Ad may be up to the half page size, depending on space availability. For larger ads, the member will be charged for the additional space at the current rates.
3. Ad must be submitted electronically.
4. Ad must be sent to the Newsletter Editor *prior* to Deadline.
5. Ad will be placed for one month only (ads may be renewed by resubmission as stated above).

NOTE: This will NOT affect Website policy. Website does NOT contain member advertising.

COMMERCIAL and NON-MEMBER ADVERTISING RATES

Full Page \$90/insertion; Half Page \$50/insertion
Quarter Page \$30/insertion; Eighth Page \$20/insertion.

10% discount for 4 or more insertions per calendar year.

20% discount for 8 or more insertions per calendar year.

Send questions and submissions to the Newsletter Editor.

Ad fees must be paid in advance.

For Sale: Men's 3XL- 4XL DUI TLS350 Blue Drysuit for Sale ~~\$1,200.00~~. **NOW ONLY \$999!**

Used only several times. Trilaminate with full green polar fleece jumpsuit, hose, and carrying bag from DUI. Will fit large male 5'11" - 6'3"; 275-375 lbs. I've shrunk and need a smaller one!
Please call Jim Carozza, cell # (617) 966-0111.

OMS Double 98s Tanks For Sale

I am selling a pair of steel OMS 98 tanks with a 7/98 hydro. They have not been used for several years, but look in great shape. This includes DiveRite manifold with center isolation valve plus stainless steel Highland Millworks bands. \$650 or best reasonable offer. Call Maria at (617) 281-5155 or send mail to mdm@aquamarinedivers.com. I will also consider selling the tanks without the manifold and bands separately.

LADIES DRY SUIT FOR SALE: Ladies Mobby's Armor Shell Dry Suit; Suit Size Medium, Shoe Size 9.

Good condition with brand new neck seal (\$100 cost). A truly self-donning suit complete with suspenders for added comfort.

Trilam construction in black with purple details. Offers around \$400.

Contact Jane at (617) 838-5118 or fatbob@rcn.com.

BONAIRE: A Studio timeshare rental for 1 week (week 50 - the week before Christmas week). The Divi Flamingo Beach Resort for \$650, a one-time rental fee that is very reasonable. The timeshare unit is right next to the dive shop that has boat dives daily. Of course, a truck can be rented at the airport for shore diving, as Bonaire is well known for its shore dives. I won't be able to go this year so I am renting it Very Cheap rather than have it go without being used at all. Buy the timeshare for \$6,500 plus closing costs with a \$450 maintenance fee that is paid for the first year. I know a closing company that I have used before that will do the work.

Please call George O'Brien at (617) 794-5946 for more information.

For Sale: Two steel 120 tanks with Nitrox Only labels. Last visual inspection was in April 2003.

Tanks were purchased new in Sept-Oct 2003 for \$360 each. Letting them go for **\$500 for both** or \$300 each or best offer.

For more information, contact George O'Brien at (617) 794-5946.



SPECIAL OFFER
for
DIVE CLUB MEMBERS ONLY

MEN'S OR WOMEN'S 7 mm
Custom Jumpsuit
\$295.00

Regular Price \$425.00

3 mm \$195.00 Reg. \$305.00

5 mm \$250.00 Reg. \$335.00

CUSTOM MADE TO YOUR
MEASUREMENTS
FROM RUBATEX NEOPRENE



INCLUDES

CHOICE OF FRONT OR BACK ZIPPER - ALL SEAMS GLUED & SEWN - FULL LYCRA EDGE FINISHING - KNEEPADS

PLACE YOUR ORDER TODAY

Offer good through December 15th 2004. A fifty percent deposit required at time of order.
Balance is due upon completion of order. Plus size policy may apply.
Lead-time is 2-4 weeks depending on date purchased.

Aquatic Fabricators of South Florida Inc. / d.b.a. Wetwear

2930 SW 30th Avenue Hallandale, Florida 33009

Toll Free: (800) 771-8081 Phone: (954) 458-0400 Fax: (954) 458-0333

Website: www.wetwear.com

Email: suits@wetwear.com



OPTIONS AND ACCESSORIES

POCKETS

Flap Pocket	30.00
Expanding (bellows) Pocket	45.00
Lycra Expanding Pocket	35.00
Knife Pocket	30.00

ZIPPERS

Ankle Zippers (pair 8" to 10" long)	30.00
Wrist Zippers (pair 6" to 8" long)	30.00
Leg Expansion Zippers to thigh (pair)	60.00
Arm Expansion Zippers to bicep (pair)	60.00
Relief Zipper	25.00
Hood Zipper	15.00

SEALS

Seal Set (wrist, ankle & neck)	60.00
Wrist Seals	25.00
Ankle Seals	25.00
Neck Seal	25.00

PADS

Spine Pad	40.00
Elbow Pads	25.00
Extended Elbow Pads (covers forearm)	35.00
Extended Knee Pad (covers shin to ankle)	40.00
Dura Knee Pad (most durable)	40.00
Butt Pad	40.00

RUBATEX NITROGEN COMPOSED NEOPRENE

Several years ago every major wetsuit manufacture began using neoprene blends. Although the sun's ultra violet rays reduce the elasticity of neoprene blends, they are adequate for above water sports such as windsurfing and water skiing. However, for diving, where the suit is subjected to compression, these blends just don't perform as well as genuine [Rubatex Neoprene](#). That is why at Aquatic / Wetwear we won't use anything else but Rubatex Neoprene.

Rubatex does not compress as much as the neoprene blends, which means it offers more insulation from the cold water around you and keeps you warmer as you dive deeper. In fact, it barely compresses during the first atmosphere, stabilizes and compresses little after that. It also holds up better under repeated use. The neoprene blends lose their elasticity after repeated dives and tend to get crinkled and wrinkled. **Genuine Rubatex neoprene keeps its good looks and elasticity much longer and will outlast three or four of the neoprene blend suits making it more cost-effective.** A Rubatex 3.0 mm suit will last 400 to 600 dives and a 7.0 mm suit as many as a 1000 dives. An added benefit is the reduction of buoyancy changes due to wet suit compression.

You might think that such superior quality and durability commands a much higher price. Think again! Our suits are competitive against many of those similarly constructed neoprene blend suits. Even if you don't buy from Aquatic / Wetwear, do yourself a favor, make sure your next wetsuit is made of genuine Rubatex Neoprene.

Aquatic Fabricators of South Florida Inc. / Wetwear
 2930 SW 30th Avenue Hallandale, Florida 33009
 Toll Free: (800) 771-8081 Phone: (954) 458-0400 Fax: (954) 458-0333
 Website: www.wetwear.com Email: suits@wetwear.com



PG DIVE TRAVEL

Dominica

March 5 to 12, 2005

Dominica is arguably the best all-around adventure vacation island in the Caribbean, with gorgeous reefs, plenty of tropical fish, lush rain forests, hiking, waterfalls, warm water springs, splendid fruits and vegetables (prepared by great local cooks) and modest hotels.

This trip is for divers and non-divers alike. Each afternoon you will have a choice of some topside exploring or you can choose to do nothing.

Your trip includes round trip flights from Boston, accommodations at the Castle Comfort Lodge, breakfast and dinner daily. Five days of two-tank dives, a night dive and unlimited shore diving.

Contact Daniela@pgdive.com

Solomon Islands

March 24 to April 5, 2005

While many destinations are often referred to as world class, few can actually live up to that description. Located between Papua New Guinea and Fiji, the Solomon Islands have been described as 'the edge of the earth' and 'the pearl of the Pacific.'

The walls, reefs, pinnacles and coral gardens of Solomon Islands support an amazing variety and quantity of sea creatures; making it an annual destination for the world's best photographers.

Join us aboard the Bilikiki liveaboard for a pampered diving experience and the trip of a lifetime.

Fathoms magazine recently had a trip report on the Solomon Islands. See it at:

<http://www.fathomspub.com/cgi/articlesFullView.pl/8/index.html>

Limited space remains.

Contact Paul@pgdive.com

Belize

May 4 - 11 2005

Join us for an amazing trip to the second largest barrier reef in the world. Spend the week at Blackbird Resort - diving, snorkeling, kayaking, windsurfing, fishing or just doing nothing!

This trip includes flights, transfers, all meals, 6 days of 3 tank boat dives and an amazing day trip to the Blue Hole.

Just a few spaces are left.

Contact Jane@pgdive.com

www.pgdive.com · (617) WOW-DIVE · divewithus@pgdive.com

New England Aquarium Dive Club 2004 Shore Diving and Event Calendar

The leaders for a dive may cancel or modify their dive plans so please contact him or her prior to the dive date. Likewise, if you confirm attendance but then cannot attend a dive for any reason, please notify the dive leader as soon as possible, so that the group does not wait for you at the meeting site on the day of the dive. *Note: Meeting minutes are posted on www.neadc.org.*

Date	Time	Event	Contact	Location	Notes
Every Monday	6PM to 9PM	Bleach Dive/Scuba skills Refresher	Genevieve Stewart, Genevieve@pgdive.com	West Suburban YMCA in Newton	Members MUST register in advance. Review your skills, or test a new piece of gear in a controlled environment
Dec 15 (Wed)	6:30pm	Dive Club General Meeting	Al Bozza (508) 528-4933	Immersion Theater, New England Aquarium	Member Show & Tell; dinner following meeting at local restaurant
Jan 5 (Wed)	6:30pm	Dive Club Social Get-together	Al Bozza (508) 528-4933	Jose McIntyre's 160 Milk St, Boston	Collecting Trip raffle
Jan 19 (Wed)	6:30pm	Dive Club General Meeting	www.neadc.org	Immersion Theater, New England Aquarium	Galapagos Islands by Al Bozza; dinner following meeting at local restaurant
Feb 2 (Wed)	6:30pm	Dive Club Informal Meeting: Dinner and NEADC Newsletter assembly	Anna & Bryce Flynn	30 Hill St, Foxboro, MA	
Feb 12 (Sat)	10am-4pm	Boston Scuba Show	For info, call (978) 525-3432 See ad this issue.	Holiday Inn and Resort, Marlboro, MA	Tickets \$20 per person; Cathy Church, Herb Rafael, Technical Dive Panel; displays
Feb 16 (Wed)	6:30pm	Dive Club General Meeting	www.neadc.org	Immersion Theater, New England Aquarium	Dinner following meeting at local restaurant
Mar 2 (Wed)	6:30pm	Dive Club Informal Meeting: Dinner and NEADC Newsletter assembly	www.neadc.org	TBA	
Mar 16 (Wed)	6:30pm	Dive Club General Meeting	www.neadc.org	Immersion Theater, New England Aquarium	Dinner following meeting at local restaurant
Apr 2 (Sat)	6:30pm	ORG Benefit	www.oceanicresearch.org	Nevins Hall, Framingham, MA	Jonathan Bird & Ed Jameson
Apr 6 (Wed)	6:30pm	Dive Club Informal Meeting: Dinner and NEADC Newsletter assembly	www.neadc.org	TBA	
Apr 20 (Wed)	6:30pm	Dive Club General Meeting	www.neadc.org	Immersion Theater, New England Aquarium	Dinner following meeting at local Restaurant

REMINDER: If you would like to participate in a club dive, *PLEASE* make sure you contact the dive leader at least a day or two before the dive date. Dive leaders may cancel or modify their dive plans. Likewise, if you confirm attendance but then cannot attend a dive, please notify the dive leader as soon as possible, so that the group does not wait for you at the meeting site on the day of the dive.

NOTE: The opinions expressed within this newsletter are those of the writers, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the New England Aquarium or the New England Aquarium Dive Club.
The Editor reserves the right to edit all submitted material for the sake of grammar, clarity, and space.

Social Get-togethers for Everyone

by Trish Katzman, Membership Director

Come meet at Jose McIntyre's prior to our next General Meetings on Wednesday, December 15, and Wednesday, January 19, from 5:30-6:30 p.m. for drinks, appetizers, dinner, or to just say hi. Or if you are more of a late night person, we usually walk together to a dinner place after the meeting.

We offer both an early and later get-together to meet the variety of styles of our 500 members. These get-togethers are meant to help answer questions and talk with new or less active members. If you are an active member, come out with us and help us greet people!

If you don't know anybody, just ask for me and I'd love to tell you about the latest club news and hear about your interests in diving. Hope to see you there!

Directions to Jose McIntyre's at 160 Milk Street, Boston:

Jose's is walking distance from the Aquarium.

Park in the garage next to the Aquarium.

Turn left when exiting the garage.

Cross the street at the light.

Walk straight to the upcoming block and look to your right.

New England Aquarium Dive Club Membership Form

Type of Membership: New _____ Renewal _____
Has your address changed since last renewal? No _____ Yes _____ previous town _____

New England Aquarium Membership Categories: **Choose One:**

(Membership in the Dive Club requires current membership in the New England Aquarium)

- | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|----------|---|------------------------------|---|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Individual | \$45.00 | + | Dive Club Membership \$15.00 | = | \$60.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Couple/Family | \$80.00 | + | Dive Club Membership \$15.00 | = | \$95.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Quartermaster | \$100.00 | + | Dive Club Membership \$15.00 | = | \$115.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Master Mariner | \$150.00 | + | Dive Club Membership \$15.00 | = | \$165.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Friend of Aquarium | \$250.00 | + | Dive Club Membership \$15.00 | = | \$265.00 |

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____ (Dive Club dues plus Aquarium membership)

Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____ E-mail _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

____ Check here to receive the newsletter electronically. ____ Check here to receive other club information electronically.
Note: Contact information will be used for Aquarium and Dive Club purposes only.

Please make your check payable to "New England Aquarium" or charge to:

____ MasterCard ____ Visa ____ Discover ____ American Express

Signature _____

Account # _____ Expiration _____ Amount \$ _____

Mail to: Membership Department, New England Aquarium, Central Wharf, Boston MA 02110

New members receive a New England Aquarium membership card marked "DIVER". **IF YOU ARE ALREADY A MEMBER OF THE AQUARIUM**, send your membership card, Dive Club dues payment, and this application to the Membership Department. Your membership card will be returned marked "DIVER". If you have any questions, please call the Aquarium Membership Office at 617-973-6555/6564.

NAUI (National Association of Underwater Instructors)

presents

BOSTON SCUBA SHOW

DIRECTED BY ALAN BUDREAU

Featuring

CATHY CHURCH and HERB RAFAEL

Digital photography's where it's at...they'll tell you how
and

TOM MOUNT

Fred Calhoun

Dallas Edmiston

TECHNICAL DIVING PANEL (FAQ)

Moderated by Dave Norman

PHOTO EQUIPMENT DISPLAY and SALES by UNDERWATER PHOTOTECH

FEBRUARY 12, 2005, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Holiday Inn and Resort, Junction of Rtes 495 and 20 - Marlboro, Massachusetts

Tickets at \$20 each may be acquired at the door or in advance (recommended) by writing to:
Cecile Christensen, 2 Ocean Ave., Unit 1-H, Magnolia, MA 01930. Checks payable to Cecile Christensen.
Show phone is (978) 525-3432.



Central Wharf, Boston, MA 02110