LEADING
DIVER EDUCATION

From Open Circuit and CCR Open Water Diver to Expedition Trimix diving to 400 ft - 120 ms and All Diver Levels inbetween Including Cave and Wreck Adventures · Confidence · Knowledge & Skill

“Knowledge is Essential – Survival is Practical” Tom Mount 1999

Look for our newest release:
Expedition and Mixed Gas Diving Encyclopedia
The Tao of Survival Underwater

(305) 754-1027
www.iantd.com
### ABOUT THE COVER

Cover Photo by Warren Lo

Toronto, Ontario, boasts tremendous opportunities to explore the rich marine heritage in the Great Lakes. Warren Lo takes the time to explore as many wrecks in his home town of Toronto as possible and is rarely seen on a dive without a camera in hand. His pictures of these amazing shipwrecks have been showcased over the years in various publications, newspaper and television. For information or to see more images Warren has taken, please visit www.warrenlophotography.com.

### MONTHLY COLUMNS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Editor’s Note</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incoming Mail</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hot News Northeast</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gear News Midwest</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book Log</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What’s Coming Up</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dive Directory</td>
<td>30-31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### NORTHEAST US DIVES

#### 10 Diving into Long Island Waters

*By Bill Pfeiffer*

The bays, inlets, and beaches of the Long Island area are a diver’s paradise with depths that are home to some of the more famous shipwrecks on the east coast. These waters beckon tropical fish to the area provide great locations for beginner and expert divers alike.

### NORTHEAST CANADIAN DIVES

#### 14 Georgian Bay - A Wreck Diving Paradise

*By Alec Pierce*

Heavy maritime traffic has made the bay one of the top freshwater wreck diving sites in North America. Crystal clear water and the incredibly intact wrecks draw quite a crowd during summers. Accessible, located an hour and a half from Toronto and just a short six-hour drive from New York, Georgian Bay is a big draw for the divers throughout the region who seek affordable trips.

### MIDWEST DIVES

#### 20 International Legends Honored

*By Jamie Farris*

They are the trail blazers of the world’s waterways who explored new frontiers to make the way for generations of scuba divers to come. They are the International Legends of Diving and in April of this year they were honored for the work they have done and the things that they have accomplished.

### TROPICAL DESTINATIONS

#### 24 Discovering the Philippines

*By Denise Mattia*

My expectations were great when I embarked on a 10-day trip to the Philippines, with plans to dive everything from World War II shipwrecks to lush coral reefs off islands that comprise the Philippines archipelago. I chose three of 7,107 islands, some barely break the surface of the water, that divide the South China Sea and the Sulu Sea from the Pacific Ocean. Any qualms about going such a distance disappeared the following morning, when I sank into the waters off Panglao Island.
Millions of people walk across stages this month to be handed diplomas and given handshakes as they graduate from schools and begin the adventure of finding jobs and earning livings. For many, the ceremonies mark the end of formal education as they apply their specialized skill to newfound jobs.

Summer is prime time for dive training in North America, when many people are bursting with enthusiasm to take up an outdoor adventure sport after long cold months of being indoors. A month of lessons later they graduate by earning certification cards. Unlike graduates of academic programs, though, these newly minted divers are only beginning to learn the arts and sciences of diving. The constant quest to learn more, see more and experience more is what keeps this sport so fresh, year after year.

Advanced certifications allow sport divers now to achieve levels of exploration that would have been unfathomable a generation ago. Training can extend the concept of recreation to finding new passages in caves, finding and identifying lost shipwrecks and going to great depths by using carefully calculated gas mixes and rebreathers that are as technologically sophisticated as astronauts’ breathing systems. Not all training is complex or expensive. It can be as simple and cheap as test diving a drysuit at a local quarry or swapping gear tips and fish IDs over beer at the dive club. Those without a thirst to expand their knowledge will lose interest in this sport. There is no such thing as knowing it all in diving.

We learn about diving every month from you, our readers. So as your summer fills with diving adventures, please continue to take notes and send in your stories to share with all the members of the region’s biggest dive club.


$1506
Rate is per person Based on availability

7 Nights
Pool-View Accommodations
Breakfast & Dinner Daily
12 Boat Dives
Airport Ground Transfers

www.littlecayman.com
little@reefseas.com
800.327.3835

1-800-737-3483
www.ultimatedivetravel.com
udive@ultimatedivetravel.com

Call for our new Philippine Scuba Diving Catalog
Now More Diving Options in the Philippines!
HELLO BOB,

I am seeking information on diving Lake George, N.Y., this summer. Particularly, I would like to visit the radeau Land Tortoise. I have searched the Internet, and have not found accommodations, a dive shop or charter that would permit me to organize a visit to scuba Lake George. Any help you could offer would be appreciated,

Thanks,
Alan G. Tessier

H’LO ALAN,

The New York State Divers Association is hosting its annual meeting at Lake George June 19-21. If anyone would know of operators there, it would be NYSDA. Learn about New York diving by visiting NYSDA’s Web site, www.scubany.org or make a reservation to attend the meeting by calling Ray Tucker at (315) 337-6938.

Safe diving,

Lake George, NY photo courtesy Jeff Jones (www.jeffjones-strategies.com)
CODY UNSER AT DUTCH SPRINGS HSA EVENT

On The Long Island Dive Association will sponsor a dive rally June 12-13 at the Brownstone Quarry in Portland, Conn. The Historical Diving Society will be hosting the dive rally. For a small donation, you can dive an authentic Mark V helmet and dress. This weekend-long event will also include plenty of scuba diving, camping, and other activities. For info visit www.lidaonline.com

TRY WHITES SUITS AT DUTCH SPRINGS

Whites Demo Day at Dutch Springs on June 7-8 will give divers a chance to see and test Whites drysuits as well as other equipment. The event will host an afternoon barbecue and a chance. The Whites tour is stopping at dive sites around the country. For info visit www.dutchsprings.com

U-BOAT DIVES THE POTOMAC

The remains of a World War II-era German submarine have been placed in its resting place on the bed of the Potomac River in southern Maryland. The submarine is located in an area designated as the Black Panther Shipwreck Preserve, and is one mile west of Piney Point Lighthouse in St. Mary’s County. For info visit www.co.saint-marys.md.us.

VANDENBERG SINKING AT KEY WEST

The ex-military missile tracking ship Gen. Hoyt S. Vandenberg should now be underwater off Key West, Fla. At press time, the ship had arrived off Florida after being towed for 1,110 miles from Norfolk, Va. Project organizers said the scuttling was to take place sometime between May 20 and June 1, about six miles south of Key West at 140 feet in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. The creation of this artificial reef will be the culmination of more than a decade of planning and fundraising. For info visit www.bigshipwrecks.com

ANNUAL DIVE RITE TECH TOUR

Divers can experience the complete line of Dive Rite gear at the Annual Dive Rite Tech Tour. They will conduct new product and O2ptima clinics throughout the day at various sites around the country. This is open to all certified divers. The Dive Rite Tour will be at Gilboa Quarry, near Findlay, Ohio, on June 6-7 and at Dutch Springs, Bethlehem, Pa. on June 13-14. For info visit www.DiveRite.com.

DIVERWIRE UNVEILS BRAND NEW WEBSITE

Dive consumers looking for breaking news and information that is SCUBA-centric will certainly find it at www.DiverWire.com. The site has recently been updated and enhanced to incorporate all of the latest online features and news presentations. DiverWire.com was developed in conjunction with Shark Byte Design (www.shark-byte.us) a Phoenix, Arizona-based firm with extensive expertise in news content development, the recreational scuba diving industry and incorporating both into effective presentation. For more details on the site, go to www.DiverWire.com or contact Scott Jones at (480) 588-8580.

MARES DRY SUITS RECALL

There has been a recall for the Sitich dry suit inflation hoses supplied to Moby’s, the producer of Mares Drysuits. The recall is specifically for the low-pressure inflation hoses. The hoses are recalled for the removal of the plastic flow-restricting insert. All end consumers/owners must send the inflator hose back to the Mares Dealer where the suit was purchased or to the Mares US Service Center so that the insert can be removed at no charge. For more info visit www.mares.com

EARN A SECOND INCOME

Be an Independent Scuba Instructor
National Association of Underwater Instructors

Train with the crew of Easy Diver
www.easy-diver.com
captaincalhoun@msn.com
978-525-3432

HOT NEWS

www.nedivenews.com
Northeast & Midwest Dive News JUNE 2009
**Northeast**

**JUNE**

- **June 3:** Wednesday Night Dives, 5:30 p.m., Essex, Conn., (860) 767-1960.
- **June 3:** Dive Club Meeting, The Hammerheads, 7 p.m., Salty Dog Eats & Drinks, Lynnhaven Dive Center, Virginia Beach, Va. (757) 481-7949.
- **June 4:** Coast Guard rescue demo, 5:30 p.m. Whites Beach, Manchester, Mass. www.northshorefrogmen.com.
- **June 4-7:** American Littoral Society’s Maine Coast Weekend, Reservations required. www.littoralsociety.org.
- **June 5-7:** Drive and Dive, All Day, Everyday, Scuba Shack, Rock Hill, Conn. 860-563-0119.
- **June 5-7:** Drive and Dive Days, Dive Dutch Springs, Bethlehem, Pa., ScubaShack, (860) 563-0119.
- **June 6:** Drift Dives Dingmans Landing, 8 a.m. Delaware River, Pa. scubadms.com.
- **June 6-7:** 4th Annual Yard Sale, Free food, great deals and prizes, Lehigh Valley Dive, Bethlehem, Pa., (610) 746-4016.
- **June 8-10:** Wreck Hunt weekend, Olympus Dive Center, Moorhead City, N.C. www.olympusdiving.com.
- **June 10:** Princeton Tec Demo Days, all day at Dutch Springs Quarry, Bethlehem, Pa. www.dutchsprings.com.
- **June 10:** Photographer Mark Snyder talks on multi-strobe setups, 7 p.m. New York City Sea Gypsies. www.seagypsies.org.
- **June 12-14:** Vintage Dive Rally, All Day, Historical Diving Society and Brownstone Park, Portland, Conn., (866) 860-0208.
- **June 15-18:** Spear Fishing dinner diver weekend, Olympus Dive Center, Moorhead City, N.C. www.olympusdiving.com.
- **June 19-21:** New York State Divers Association Convention, Lake George, N.Y. Ray Tucker: (315) 337-6938. or www.scubabuy.org.
- **June 20:** Night Dives, 4 p.m., Heathstone Point State Campground, Lake George, N.Y. scubadms.com.
- **June 20:** Summer Solstice Charity Event, Brownstone Park, Portland, Conn. (866) 860-0208.
- **June 22-26:** Scuba Rangers, Kids ages 8-12, 8:30 -11a.m. Lynnhaven Dive Center, Virginia Beach, Va., 757-481-7949.
- **June 24:** Princeton Tec Demo Days, all day at Dutch Springs Quarry, Bethlehem, Pa. www.dutchsprings.com.
- **June 27:** Gala fundraiser raffle for Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, Vergennes, Vt., www.lcmm.org.
- **June 27:** Princeton Tec Demo Days, all day at Dutch Springs Quarry, Bethlehem, Pa. www.dutchsprings.com.

**JULY**

- **July 8:** Princeton Tec Demo Days, all day at Dutch Springs Quarry, Bethlehem, Pa. www.dutchsprings.com.
- **July 8:** Northeast Dive News Editor Bob Sterner talks on Diving in Paradise, 7 p.m., New York City Sea Gypsies. www.seagypsies.org.
- **July 21:** Eco-Photo Explorers talk on Galapagos, 7:8-30 p.m., Brentwood, N.Y., Public Library. www.ecophotoexplorers.com.
- **July 22:** Princeton Tec Demo Days, all day at Dutch Springs Quarry, Bethlehem, Pa. www.dutchsprings.com.
- **July 25:** Great Annual Fish Count, Stage Fort Park, Newport, R.I. www.neadc.org.

**Midwest**

**JUNE**

- **June 5-6:** Treasure Hunt at Bonne Terre Mine, Bonne Terre, Mo. www.scubaboard.com.
- **June 6-7:** DUI Demo and DOG Days- Scuba Emporium Pearl Lake, South Beloit, Ill., (954) 572-2642.
- **June 9:** Narked Sharks Club Meeting, 7 p.m. – 9 p.m., Illinois Institute of Diving, Glen Ellyn, Ill., (630) 469-3483.
- **June 11:** Dive Club Meeting The Aquaholics, 7:00, Dive Right In Scuba, Plainfield, Ill., (815) 267-8400.
- **June 14:** Annual Dive Club Picnic, 12 p.m. Spring Mill Pond, Aquatic Adventures of Michigan, Brighton, Mich., (810) 225-9868.
- **June 24:** Underwater Archaeological Society of Chicago Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Helix building, Chicago, www.uaschicago.org.
- **June 27:** Aqualung Demo Day. 9 a.m. Haigh Quarry, Kankakee, Ill., (815) 939-7797.
- **June 27:** Scuba Camp for Kids 8-12, 11 a.m. Scuba Systems, Skokie, Ill., (847) 674-0222.
- **June 28:** Gorilla Hunt: Support the local dive team, Extreme Sports Scuba, Joplin, Mo., (417) 659-9009.

**JULY**

- **July 12:** Underwater Treasure Hunt, 2 p.m. Spring Mill Pond, Aquatic Adventures of Michigan, Brighton, Mich., (810) 225-9868.

Want to see your event here?
email: editor@divenewsmag.com
By Ellsworth Boyd

Sharp-eyed Northeast divers may notice a visitor from Florida during the summer months when cow-nose rays commute up the Atlantic Seaboard to northern mating grounds.

The rays have poisonous stingers at the base of their tails, but seldom use them, according to Bob Fisher, a Virginia Institute of Marine Science biologist. He said that usually people get stung when they try to pick up rays or when bathers accidentally step on them. It doesn’t mean however, that the sting can’t be harmful.

“Some people put too much trust in them,” Fisher says, pointing to a puckered scar on his right arm, a mark left from the last time he was stung. He says it wasn’t pleasant and that the toxin created a burning sensation that went through his whole body.

Although they’re only a nominal threat to humans, the odd-looking animals do impart a major sting to the shellfish industry. As they migrate to northern waters, they vacuum up millions of oysters and deliver a massive blow to shellfish recovery programs.

Cow-nosed rays are about three feet across when fully grown and weigh about 35 pounds. Their nickname comes from their slightly bovine appearance, with eyes on the sides of their heads. Scientifically identified as Rhinoptera bonasus, they are an ancient species related to sharks with similar gray skin. They lack sharp teeth, having bony plates in their sucker-like mouths to grind up shellfish and worms.

The animals spend their winters in the warm waters near Florida, then flock by the millions to mate in the Chesapeake Bay around Virginia and Maryland. Then they head south again in September.

Wherever they go, the rays devour hundreds of thousands of oysters and then go on their way. Not long ago, a swarm of cow-nosed rays gobbled up 775,000 oysters planted on artificial reefs by the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. As oyster growers everywhere try to revive their industry, they face ever-growing threats by the rays.

One of the reasons for their over-abundance is due to the excessive fishing of sharks in the Atlantic Ocean. Many sharks have been slaughtered for their fins, which are sold in Asia as a delicacy. This has thrown the ecosystem out of balance in that rays are the sharks’ prey.

Atlantic cow-nosed rays are a smaller species than the Pacific stingray that pierced the heart of television naturalist Steve Irwin.

Fisher and his biologists say that not much is known about cow-nosed rays because few studies have been conducted on them. In lab experiments, magnets have been used successfully to repel rays. As a result, oyster farmers are now considering using magnets around their beds to try and ward off the rays.

Cow-nose ray meat has been donated to chefs in various restaurants for possible use in soups and fajitas. But the idea hasn’t taken off due to the unusual texture of the meat. It’s a bloody meat that needs special preparation, something most chefs don’t want to fool with.

Ellsworth Boyd is a freelance writer living in Whitehall, Md. Contact Ellsworth at ellsboyd@aol.com.

---

Northeast is Cow-Nose Rays' Oyster
How would you like to have a piece of the ocean for your very own? Well, now you can through OceansForMe.com. OceanForMe.com is a virtual world where you can surf the oceans of the world and find a piece of the ocean water to call your own. The site allows you to register a parcel of the ocean either for you or as a gift. Everyone who registers a parcel of the ocean at OceansForMe.com will be able to view their parcel on the interactive ocean map. Users can even leave messages for others to read within the OceansForMe community.

You will get the GPS coordinates of your parcel. This is a virtual reality ownership through the website but even NOAA officials are seeing the merit of this program. “We are all responsible for the future of the ocean and the ocean’s future are our future; now with this ocean registry you can adopt your own piece. It’s a great way to connect to the ocean and pass a “piece of it” on to others, and get all of us focused on what our responsibility is. It’s a great way for people to feel personally invested in the future of our ocean it’s resources”, says Dan Basta, head of NOAA. For more info on how you can get your piece of the world’s oceans visit www.oceansforme.com.

**Oceans For Me**

Get Your Piece Of The Ocean

The Official Ocean Registry

---

**Customer Appreciation Day BBQ**

**July 11th**

**Food Prizes Great Bargains**

**Lehigh Valley Dive Center**

www.LVDive.com

**SCUBA Boot Camp**

Intense training that will transform the way you dive

2 weekends:

July 31-Aug. 2

Aug. 7-Aug. 9

(610) 746-4016

Minutes from Dutch Springs!

231 Nazareth Pike (Route 191 North)
Bethlehem, PA 18020

---

**Backscatter**

from point & shoot to professional
We **DIVE**, **SHOOT** and **SERVICE**
... everything we sell!

FREE lifetime tech support with every purchase

**MONTEREY, CA**

**WWW.BACKSCATTER.COM**

**831-645-1082**

---

**Nikon Authorized Dealer**

Nikon D300 underwater... film is officially dead
By Bill Pfeiffer
Contributing Writer/Dive Instructor

Whether you are a beach diver or a wreck diver there are a lot of scuba diving opportunities available in the waters surrounding Long Island. The bays, inlets, and beaches of Long Island are home to some of the more famous shipwrecks on the East Coast. Whether cold winter dives or warm summer ones the waters provide great diving for beginners and experts alike.

Divers here tend to fall into one of two groups – beach divers and wreck divers. It sometimes seems that there isn’t a lot of crossover but we take every opportunity to encourage divers to get out and hit the water regardless of their preference. We are constantly trying to get the ones who want to come out and play on the beaches to visit our wrecks and the wreck divers to come play on our beaches.
Long Island’s shipwreck diving is among the best in the country with treasures still to be found throughout. Some wrecks have been featured on History Channel specials, such as the wreck of the U.S.S. San Diego. Our shoreline offers a variety of unique sites sure to satisfy the inquisitive diver. No matter what draws you to the water, Long Island dive sites have the perfect dive for the curious and the adventurous. Dive shops, dive charter boats, and scuba clubs are easy to find throughout Long Island.

There are lots of options to draw wreck divers to the waters located between New Jersey and Block Island. Long Island is a thin island shaped like a fish with the head to the west and the tail fins to east. The area south of Fire Island, Long Island’s barrier beach, holds literally thousands of wrecks. Boats depart from south shore marinas in Brooklyn, Hempstead, Freeport, Captree, Moriches and Shinnecock. From the eastern end of the island they depart Montauk for Block Island wrecks and the Andrea Doria, the Italian luxury liner that sank following a collision in heavy fog on July 25, 1956 with the Swedish freighter Stockholm.

The San Diego is Long Island’s signature wreck. Mystery remains as to whether it was a mine, torpedo or an accidental explosion that caused the armored cruiser to sink following an explosion on July 19, 1918. It now lies upside down about 14 miles southeast of Fire Island at 110 feet with it’s keel at 70 feet. Divers can penetrate the vessel, but this is advisable only for advanced divers with specialized wreck diving training. Anemones, blackfish, black sea bass, lobster and crabs swarm about the wreck.

A bit deeper off Fire Island is the wreck of the Oregon, a 518-foot long steamship that was sunk following a collision with the three-masted schooner Charles R. Moss on March 14, 1886. It now lies at 130 feet and still regularly yields museum quality artifacts to those with the skill and patience to find them, along with trophy-sized lobsters. The ship was carrying new immigrants to the United States and all of their worldly possessions sank with the vessel, but the 845 passengers and crew escaped with their lives. It also carried artifacts for display at the New York Museum of Natural History.

The area’s most famous wreck is the SS Andrea Doria, considered by many to be the Mount Everest of diving. Of the 1,706
The Ponquogue Bridge, located in Hampton Bays, is one of Long Island’s best, and most accessible beach dives with very good visibility and beautiful marine life. It is especially favored by members of the Long Island Divers Association because LIDA was instrumental in its development and preservation as a dive site. The old draw bridge was being replaced a new elevated bridge and the association urged local authorities to retain the old bridge because divers had been diving it for years. They went one further and put in a marine park with vehicle parking. Strong tidal currents rake through the area, but as peak high tide crests divers can explore the site for up to an hour and a half if they work the current right. The visibility can be exceptional and the site is home to both local and migratory tropical marine life, making the site popular with underwater photographers.

Clarks Beach, popularly known as Secret Beach, has long been a favorite local training site, and many students return long after earning their certifications. Flounder rest on its sandy bottom at 15 to 25 feet. A scattering of rocks provide homes for all types of marine life seeking shelter from the mild current. Once slated for development, the property, on Long Island Sound and currently owned by the Town of Greenport, is to be transferred to the County of Suffolk and maintained as parkland. LIDA will be working to assure future access for divers for generations to come.

Beach 8th Street is a site that’s popular among Long Island and New York City divers alike, since it’s located at Far Rockaway,
Queens, N.Y. Divers can hit the water throughout the year and many instructors use the site for training. Visibility frequently exceeds 30 feet. This is another great Long Island dive site that sees tropical marine life arrive towards the end of the summer.

Tangs, damselfish, groupers, and seahorses are frequently observed and photographed here. It’s a great site to remind divers of the dense marine life in waters in the shadow of one of the largest metropolitan areas in the world.

Water temperatures range from the low 70s F in the summer to 30s F during winter. There is a whole world of life to see at this site where divers will enjoy sand flats, mussel beds, and a rocky reef full of life.

Bill Pfeiffer has been diving since the 1970’s and is an independent NAUI instructor. He prefers to dive year-round off Long Island than to travel to tropical resorts. He is the president of Long Island Divers Association. Contact Bill at bill@island-diving.us.
The Arabian was sailing from Midland, Ontario, through Georgian Bay on a run to Chicago with a hold full load of corn. At 10 years, it was getting to be pretty old for a wooden vessel. When a storm reared up, the Arabian began taking on water and the corn wasn’t helping. The water caused the corn to swell against the hull planking allowing even more water in until the ship sank just northeast of Echo Island. All hands survived.

Today, the Arabian is upright and so intact that divers often joke about refloating the vessel and sailing her away. The ship is a godsend for divers because it didn’t actually wreck; it just sank straight to the bottom where it sits upright, chains, the rigging and all the anchors are there. Waiting, or so it may seem, for a new crew.

The Arabian is just one example of the shipwrecks one will discover in the bay. Sitting snugly between Lake Huron and Ontario Canada, Georgian Bay is a wreck diver’s dream. Unlike their saltwater cousins, the wrecks of Georgian Bay are preserved in cold freshwater, making this an exciting place to explore the past through this ships in this graveyard.

Georgian Bay is a large bay and lies east of the Bruce Peninsula and north of Manitoulin Island. Georgian Bay is not really a bay but is in fact more of a lake. It is so big that you could drop the state of Massachusetts in the middle of the bay with room to spare. Despite its monstrous size the opening to Lake Huron is small enough that geographers decided that it was a bay and not a lake. The main channel between Bruce Peninsula and Manitoulin Island was once heavily traveled by steamships as a major Algonquian-Huron trade route.

Heavy maritime traffic has made the bay one of the top freshwater wreck diving sites in North America. Among the millions of divers have visited over the years are John Stolen and Jacques Cousteau. Crystal clear water and the incredibly intact wrecks draw quite a crowd during summers. Accessible, located an hour and a half from Toronto and just a short six- hour drive from New York, Georgian Bay is a big draw for the divers throughout the region who seek affordable trips.

A rock bottom helps to keep water clear water compared with the usual silt bottoms of freshwater lakes, a feature underwater photographers appreciate. Water temperature adds to the bay’s popularity, since it warms to 70°F in the summer. But the draws are the hundreds of known wrecks and the chance of rediscovering lost ones.

About 100 wrecks are within a 10-minute boat ride from Tobermory. Off Midland there are 30 more wrecks. On the east coast, in Parry Sound there are 30 to 40 more diveable shipwrecks. Unlike wrecks in corrosive saltwater, shipwrecks are well preserved. For example, there is a pirate ship built in the early 1800’s that sailed the ocean, the Great Lakes and then sank in Georgian Bay. It sits upright on the bottom with the masts and anchors all still in place as though a fresh crew could take aboard and float her away.

Those who enjoy shore diving can visit wrecks too. In Little Tub Harbor there are some tug wrecks at only 40 feet. The town even built a deck leading down to the water...
Georgian Bay is comprised of four general areas: Tobermory at the tip of Bruce Peninsula, the southeastern area near the cities of Penetanguishene and Midland, Parry Sound in the northeast, and Manitoulin Island in northwest.

Tobermory at the edge of the main channel is famous for shipwrecks. The Sweepstakes is one of the more popular sites. The schooner sunk in relatively shallow water as the captain tried to beach the sinking ship but didn’t quite make it. The entire hull is almost completely intact. On low water days you can stand on the hull and your head will be above water. The 218-foot ship rests on a bottom at 8 to 20 feet about 150 feet from the head of Big Tub.

About 100 feet to the starboard of the Sweepstakes is the City of Grand Rapids. The steel-clad wooden hull ship caught fire at the Big Tub Harbor docks. Very little remains of…
Southeastern Georgian Bay is an hour and half from Toronto, so it is a popular day trip with a number of dive charters ready to take divers to sites. The Mapledawn steamship on the northwest side of Christian Island was a steel freighter loaded with barley when she sank 30 feet to the rocky bottom below an old lighthouse. Nearby is the Marquette, a sailing vessel now resting at 29 feet just off the northeast corner of Hope Island, which led to locals to dub it the Hope Island wreck. It sank in 1867. The Michigan, also off Hope Island, sank in 1890 in a mere 15 feet of water. Giant gears and metal framework are quite the sight on this wreck.
Parry Sound is a wooded area that is not settled, so a boat is needed to gain access to its wrecks. One of the most popular is the Blackmore Island wreck, an 85-foot vessel of unknown origin. It lies between Blackmore and Bayview islands at a depth of 10 to 20 feet. Another wreck, the Midland, was a 56-ton wooden tug. There is a very large engine and much of the engine room gear is strewn on the clay bottom at 50 feet.

The Seattle is a wooden steamer that fell victim to engine failure in heavy seas on the sound and sank just off Green Island. The broiler and other wreckage at 25 feet can be seen from the surface.

The Manitoulin Island area is rocky and colder than most of the bay. Manitoulin Island is an extension of a chain of islands leading to the Mackinac, Mich., area. This is a very uninhabited area so divers have no choice but to charter a boat to visit the area. The charters leave from Tobermory so the ride crosses the bay to get to the sites. Some folks camp on Fitzwilliam Island. It is not a state park so there are no facilities or people for that matter.

The wrecks are rarely visited. Favorite dives are on Northern Belle, the James Reid and the City of Cleveland. The Belle is a wooden steamer that sank at just 10 feet of water off the Byng Inlet in 1875 after it caught fire. The iron-hulled tug boat Reid sits upright at 70 feet in Byng Inlet. In her time the Reid was a powerful tug and there is a lot of gear and ship to explore.

The Cleveland is Manitoulin’s must-dive site. This twin-deck four-mast wooden steamer lies north of Perseverance Island. It ran aground during a snow storm in 1901 and remains as one of the most impressive shallow-water dives to be seen. Its wreckage at 10 to 30 feet includes a massive broiler, the rudder and a huge propeller.

The Georgian Bay area is a treasure trove of shipwrecks for the adventurous soul. This is one place you can’t visit just once.
ANNUAL UNDERWATER TREASURE HUNT
Join Scuba North Inc. for the Annual Underwater Treasure Hunt in Traverse City, Mich. The event will take place at Grand Traverse West bay on June 28th from 12-5 p.m. Proceeds from the Treasure Hunt will go to the new Grand Traverse Bay YMCA and the Grand Traverse Bay Underwater Preserve. To pre-register visit Scuba North for the lower entrance fee of $20. Don’t forget your certification card for registration! For information call 231-947-2520 or email to dive@scubanorth.com.

HUNT TREASURE AT BONNE TERRE MINE
Scuba Board will host a Treasure Hunt on June 6-7 at Bonne Terre Mine, Bonne Terre, Mo. The treasure hunt will include up to 320 divers (160 divers each day) over the weekend. Divers will complete two dives and search for different color poker chips. At the end of each day, divers will be treated to a barbecue. Divers will use the chips to bid on the products and services offered at the event. Bonne Terre Mine is one of National Geographic’s Top-10 Adventures. For info, visit scubaboard.com.

TDI OFFERS FREE NITROX STICKERS
Scuba Diving International and Technical Diving International are working to draw divers to North American dive stores by giving away nitrox tank wrappers. You can get them at any SDI or TDI Professional Dive Center. For info visit www.tdisdi.com/freewraps.

ANNUAL DIVE RITE TECH TOUR
Divers can experience the complete line of Dive Rite gear at the Annual Dive Rite Tech Tour. They will conduct new product and O2ptima clinics throughout the day at various sites around the country. This is open to all certified divers. The Dive Rite Tour will be at Gilboa Quarry in Ohio on June 6-7 and in Dutch Springs, Pa on June 13-14. For more info on dates and locations visit www.DiveRite.com

NAVIGATE PORTAGE QUARRY
A new underwater navigation project was announced by Portage, Ohio, Quarry owner Jeff Rice at the Third Annual Legends Festival, touted as the first of its kind. The course is the project by the Great Lakes Wrecking Crew Dive Club of Milan, Mich. The project highlights various submerged locations with headings and distances. Test out your navigational skills through the use of the map. Arrive through your GPS, then navigate underwater with the use of a compass and count your kicks. More information will be posted on this new project at the quarry. For info visit www.portagequarry.com/

DUI DEMO AND DOG DAYS
Harold and Eileen with Scuba Emporium are sponsoring a fun weekend getaway on June 6-7. Diving Unlimited International will conduct a demo and you will get the chance to try out DUI drysuits. Get certified as a drysuit diver or complete your advanced open water class in a drysuit. Scuba Emporium reserved a block of rooms for the weekend so call or email today to reserve yours. For info contact www.scubaemporium.com.

HAIGH QUARRY FLEA MARKET
Haigh Quarry will be sponsoring a dive equipment flea market on June 28th at Haigh Quarry. There will be a lot of great deals to be had. For more info visit www.haighquarry.com

TIME TO REMEMBER JIM
Haigh Quarry will be hosting their annual Jim Haigh Memorial Dive/Diver Appreciation Day on Sunday the June 26. There will be a raffle, a live band and a barbecue. Scuba Radio will broadcast from the event. Come celebrate Jim’s life. For more info visit www.haighquarry.com

DAN ANNOUNCES NEW VICE PRESIDENT OF MEDICAL SERVICES
Anyone who has called the DAN® 24-hour Diving Emergency Hotline or used the non-emergency Medical Information Line knows the outstanding caliber of those who comprise DAN’s medical department. That legacy now continues with the addition of Dr. Nicholas Bird, DAN’s incoming vice president of medical services. Dr. Bird joins the DAN staff in June. He comes to DAN from the Dixie Regional Medical Center in St. George, Utah, where he currently serves as the medical director of hyperbaric medicine. His acceptance of his new position at DAN follows an intensive and exhaustive months-long search by the organization to find the right candidate for the job.

INTERNATIONAL LEGENDS OF DIVING KICKS OFF
Bob Meistrell will be featured at the 4th annual International Legends of Diving event at Portage Quarry, near Bowling Green, Ohio on Aug. 7-9.
Meistrell holds an instructor No. 1 card. Along with his twin brother Bill he founded Body Glove to market wetsuits to divers in 1953.

Summer 09 Isle Royale Charters
Book Today!
Spots filling fast!
Thorough and fun scuba classes
Reliable gear service and sales
Full local dive and event schedule
Exotic scuba diving vacations
Flexible gear rental program
Real Divers
Dive Minnesota
763-574-1280
www.smithdiving.com
1270 East Moore Lake Drive
Fridley, MN 55432

www.nedivenews.com
SPOTLIGHT ON HAIGH QUARRY

There is a lot happening over the next few months at Haigh Quarry. From a divers flea market to honoring the memory of a Haigh Quarry legend, this is the place to visit this summer for fun.

The 12-acre quarry is 60 miles south of Chicago and has been drawing divers to Kankakee, Ill., for years. Its seven training platforms at 25 feet and a deep platform at 80 feet make it popular with instructors.

Experienced divers can view many sunken attractions amid healthy populations of bass, crappie, bluegill, perch, northern pike, catfish and paddlefish. Visibility is best in spring and late fall, when it stretches to 35 feet. Surface water temperatures range from low-80s F in the summer to mid-30s F in the winter.

FLEA MARKET

Haigh Quarry has special events throughout the summer, including a dive equipment flea market on June 28 where you can shop for great deals during your surface intervals between dives.

REBREATHER TRY AND DIVE

On June 13-14, divers can experience the underwater world silent and bubble free by using rebreathers with instructors from Scuba Emporium, Orland Park, Ill., Richie Kohler and Tamara Thomsen. Divers must be nitrox certified in order to try Kiss, Evolution or Inspiration closed-circuit rebreathers.

AQUA LUNG DEMO DAY

Aqua Lung Product Demonstration Day is scheduled for Saturday, June 27 at 9 a.m. at Haigh Quarry. Divers will get the opportunity to dive, try out Slingshot Fins, Suunto Dive Computers, Aqua Lung and Apeks regulators. There will also be hot dogs, chips and soda provided for lunch.

TIME TO REMEMBER JIM

On Sunday July 26, Haigh Quarry will host its annual Jim Haigh Memorial Dive / Diver Appreciation Day, which honors original owner Jim Haigh with a Barbecue and entertainment. There will be a raffle and a live band. Scuba Radio will broadcast from the event.

An added attraction is the new Artifact Park. The mock up of a Mediterranean shipwreck has amphorae, ballast stones and coins of ancient times. It is an experience every diver should have. For information on these events and upcoming activities visit www.haighquarry.com.

Diver’s Platform

The only Surface Support Float for Dive Professionals

Complete kit offers all you divers a complete package from the Flag and Pole to the standard platform 5/8 poly braided 40” anchor rope with a quick snap on one end to the auger of your choice, the broad head for sand and gravel to the Raptor for the hard rock bottoms and hard clay.

The Divers Platform just came off its first successful year showing for the second time at DEMA, the satisfied customer response was “HUGE” with customers doing the selling for us at DEMA.

Go online at www.thediversplatform.com

Call toll free 1-866-691-7816

Check out all the new products from The Divers Platform

The Caribbean of the Midwest

• Recreational Scuba Diving
• Instructional Scuba Diving
• Air Fills • Nitrox Fills • Equipment Rentals

Enjoy a day of diving in a park setting. Spring fed water, Artifact Park, Variety of fish, Easy access to water, Shaded picnic area.

Open 6 days a week (closed Tuesdays)
May-October
Open weekends in November & April

(815) 939-7797

www.haighquarry.com

2738 E 2000 North Rd., Kankakee, IL

Northeast & Midwest Dive News JUNE 2009

www.mwdivenews.com

19
By Jamie Farris
Writer, Dive News Network

They are the trail blazers of the world’s waterways who explored new frontiers to make the way for generations of scuba divers to come. They are the International Legends of Diving and in April of this year they were honored for the work they have done and the things that they have accomplished.

Jeff Rice brought the event he has conducted annually at his Portage Quarry, near Bowling Green, Ohio to the Grand Bahamas Island’s International Underwater Explorers Society. At the UNEXSO facility in April the legends were the focus of a three-day celebration of their lives and scuba diving contributions. Those honored were Dr. John Clement, Ollie Ferguson, Dave Woodward, Ben Rose, Dr. Jose Jones, Nick Icorn, Neal Clement, Ollie Ferguson, Dave Woodward, Watson, Dottie Frazier, Alec Peirce, John Englander, Karen Rolle accepting for her husband Nick Rolle, and Robert Croft.

The event brought worldwide attention to the diving heroes who have dedicated their lives to scuba diving. Some of the divers are local legends as well most notably Ben Rose, who discovered Ben’s Cavern located in the Lucayan National Park; John Englander, who is the former owner of UNEXSO and Dr. John Clement, who was in charge of the hyperbaric chamber and one of the original founders of UNEXSO.

Rice was beside himself with awe during the weekend. “It all meant a lot to me,” he said. “Putting this thing together has to be one of the hardest things I have ever done, making sure that everyone got here and that the dives went well, but in the end it was all very worth it.”

Rice added that the event also had an element of educating local students. Each day Rice and two of the legends visited local high school to tell students about the history of the sport and current standards in the industry. Rice said that one of the most thrilling moments of the event happened at one of the schools.

“Bob Croft was a free-diving record holder in 1968,” Rice said. “During one of the class room visits we met a teen named Brian. We had heard that Brian had been free diving on a local wreck to about 90 feet. This kid was practicing on this 90-foot dive and he was only 14 years old. So Bob goes over and sits down with the boy explaining how free diving works, how not to get hurt and to have better dives. It was an amazing thing to watch, here was this guy, a legend in our industry and he is sort of passing the torch to this new young diver. It was just an incredible experience to be there while it was taking place. Bob said that the most fun he had been working with the kids.”

Peirce said he was excited to be included in the company of the other legends. “We had a great time. You know how it is when a bunch of good guys are together.”

The Tradition Continues

Legends Weekend
August 7-9, 2009

Featuring
Bob Meistrell
He was in the first Scuba Instructors class for L.A. County, he holds card #1.
He was the instructor of many Movie Stars including Lloyd Bridges (Mike Nelson).

Visit suit pioneer and founder of Body Glove.

$10,000 of prizes to be raffled off

Join us Saturday August 8, 2009 for an evening with Bob Meistrell.
For more information and details please visit our web site.

Also this summer
Parrot Heads & Pirates Weekend
August 1, 2009

Featuring
A salute to Jimmy Buffett with the #1 tribute band in the country

Parrots of the Caribbean

Watch our WSB for other great events coming to PORTAGE QUARRY THIS YEAR!

www.portagequarry.com
of old guys get together, there are stories and such. It was great to see old friends and to be able to spend time doing what we all love. I’ve schooled a lot of divers in my time. It has been estimated that I have taught about 6,500 divers and today I see a lot of those divers going on to do other things. I have taught divers who are now working for NASA and diving in South Africa doing work on the coast there. These young folks have taken what I taught them and gone on to make a difference. You can’t wish for more than that. It is the responsibility of the older legends to pass on what we know.”

The event hosted the divers in three stages, first they were invited to a reunion of all the past UNEXSO employees, being treated to dinner and an evening of visiting. Next they took part in dives each day. “These guys did it all,” Rice said. “They did the reef dives, the shark dives all of it. We even were honored with watching Ben Rose feed the sharks for the first time since 1996. Ben is well known for his ability to calm the sharks down into an almost trance like state. It was amazing to watch.” Finally on the last night the legends were given special awards designed by local artist Sydney Pratt. The award was a blown glass scuba diver designed especially for the event.

Jones summed a lot of what the other divers felt at the end of the event. “When I was growing up my legends, the people I idolized were these guys. I am standing next to many of the men and women who inspired me. I never thought that I would see all of my idols in the sport of diving in one place let alone be counted among them.”

The Midwest’s Premier Dive Training Facility

TRAIN WITH US
No one will offer you more!
• Only PADI 5 Star CDC in the Midwest
• Proud to have 2 Platinum Course Directors on Staff

DID YOU KNOW?
We have certified over 20,000 PADI divers

708-226-1614 Orland Park, IL
www.scubaemporium.com
info@scubaemporium.com

The event hosted the divers in three stages, first they were invited to a reunion of all the past UNEXSO employees, being treated to dinner and an evening of visiting. Next they took part in dives each day. “These guys did it all,” Rice said. “They did the reef dives, the shark dives all of it. We even were honored with watching Ben Rose feed the sharks for the first time since 1996. Ben is well known for his ability to calm the sharks down into an almost trance like state. It was amazing to watch.” Finally on the last night the legends were given special awards designed by local artist Sydney Pratt. The award was a blown glass scuba diver designed especially for the event.

Jones summed a lot of what the other divers felt at the end of the event. “When I was growing up my legends, the people I idolized were these guys. I am standing next to many of the men and women who inspired me. I never thought that I would see all of my idols in the sport of diving in one place let alone be counted among them.”

The event hosted the divers in three stages, first they were invited to a reunion of all the past UNEXSO employees, being treated to dinner and an evening of visiting. Next they took part in dives each day. “These guys did it all,” Rice said. “They did the reef dives, the shark dives all of it. We even were honored with watching Ben Rose feed the sharks for the first time since 1996. Ben is well known for his ability to calm the sharks down into an almost trance like state. It was amazing to watch.” Finally on the last night the legends were given special awards designed by local artist Sydney Pratt. The award was a blown glass scuba diver designed especially for the event.

Jones summed a lot of what the other divers felt at the end of the event. “When I was growing up my legends, the people I idolized were these guys. I am standing next to many of the men and women who inspired me. I never thought that I would see all of my idols in the sport of diving in one place let alone be counted among them.”

The Midwest’s Premier Dive Training Facility

TRAIN WITH US
No one will offer you more!
• Only PADI 5 Star CDC in the Midwest
• Proud to have 2 Platinum Course Directors on Staff

DID YOU KNOW?
We have certified over 20,000 PADI divers

708-226-1614 Orland Park, IL
www.scubaemporium.com
info@scubaemporium.com

The event hosted the divers in three stages, first they were invited to a reunion of all the past UNEXSO employees, being treated to dinner and an evening of visiting. Next they took part in dives each day. “These guys did it all,” Rice said. “They did the reef dives, the shark dives all of it. We even were honored with watching Ben Rose feed the sharks for the first time since 1996. Ben is well known for his ability to calm the sharks down into an almost trance like state. It was amazing to watch.” Finally on the last night the legends were given special awards designed by local artist Sydney Pratt. The award was a blown glass scuba diver designed especially for the event.

Jones summed a lot of what the other divers felt at the end of the event. “When I was growing up my legends, the people I idolized were these guys. I am standing next to many of the men and women who inspired me. I never thought that I would see all of my idols in the sport of diving in one place let alone be counted among them.”

The Midwest’s Premier Dive Training Facility

TRAIN WITH US
No one will offer you more!
• Only PADI 5 Star CDC in the Midwest
• Proud to have 2 Platinum Course Directors on Staff

DID YOU KNOW?
We have certified over 20,000 PADI divers

708-226-1614 Orland Park, IL
www.scubaemporium.com
info@scubaemporium.com

The event hosted the divers in three stages, first they were invited to a reunion of all the past UNEXSO employees, being treated to dinner and an evening of visiting. Next they took part in dives each day. “These guys did it all,” Rice said. “They did the reef dives, the shark dives all of it. We even were honored with watching Ben Rose feed the sharks for the first time since 1996. Ben is well known for his ability to calm the sharks down into an almost trance like state. It was amazing to watch.” Finally on the last night the legends were given special awards designed by local artist Sydney Pratt. The award was a blown glass scuba diver designed especially for the event.

Jones summed a lot of what the other divers felt at the end of the event. “When I was growing up my legends, the people I idolized were these guys. I am standing next to many of the men and women who inspired me. I never thought that I would see all of my idols in the sport of diving in one place let alone be counted among them.”
Jim Hoser of Schwenksville, Pa., is a man fully committed to a mission. He wants to help others less fortunate than himself, disabled people in wheelchairs, learn to scuba dive. This mission is not so much about scuba diving as it is about returning independence and confidence to this group as they regain their lost mobility in water.

Hoser, a scuba instructor since 1981, is no stranger to the disabled world. Once a paraplegic himself he understands how it feels. Hoser was injured in an accident in 1982 that left him without the use of his legs for seven years. An active person, Hoser was devastated by the loss of his mobility and freedom and spiraled into a deep depression. “The doctors said that I would never walk again. I tried not to believe them, but eventually I came to accept it,” said Hoser.

Fortunately for Hoser, he had another tragic accident and fell out of his wheelchair down a flight of stairs causing an incredible miracle; he regained some feeling in his legs. Eventually, he learned to walk again and since then has been on a personal quest to help others facing similar circumstances and depression. According to Hoser, it is incredible how much scuba diving can offer those suffering from paralysis and disabilities.

There are no words to describe the experience of being disabled – living in a world of limits, offering no place to be except a bed or a wheelchair. They often suffer from deep depression wondering what purpose there might be in living. Once they get into the water they feel so much different when they learn to dive. “Water is the great equalizer,” Hoser said. “Water makes them buoyant and weightless. It is hard to comprehend how returning freedom of mobility restores their souls. I know from personal experience as well as through seeing many of my disabled students, how lives can be changed allowing the disabled to feel like life is worth living again.”

Now Hoser is taking on an even bigger challenge. He is building the largest indoor scuba diving “grotto” in the world. The world’s first wheelchair-bound indoor certification facility, the future facility will be open 24/7 for disabled people to learn to dive and rediscover the freedom of mobility. The facility will include two pools, including a 195,000 gallon 40-foot deep “grotto” that will be used for certification dives. Located on Hosers’ Pennsylvania property, the facility has faced difficult challenges from day one. “Everyone was very skeptical of my plans. No one had built anything on this scale before and we didn’t even know it was possible,” he said.

After two years of legal wrangling and finally free of limiting opposition, Hoser is working with a contractor. They have had to drill holes in solid rock every 18 inches, down 45 feet. Once outlined by the holes volunteers dug for an incredible for 4 ½ months by hand through solid rock from 6 a.m.-11 p.m., seven days per week, to empty the hole. Hoser worked with McGlaughlin Spray Foam International to insulate the hole and then put in 65 tons of rebar and 296 cubic feet of gunite to cement the top structure in place. To understand the magnitude of his passion you can view some of the construction at Hilltop-Diving.com.

Today the structure is in place and volunteers are still working to complete the site. Built so far with Hoser’s own money the project needs many dollars and hundreds of hours to complete. Once complete, the Grotto will be the only one of its kind in the world. Constructed by one man’s vision, like a field of dreams, Hoser has been consumed by a driving passion to provide for his fellow humanity that which he himself lacked and now has regained a purpose and confidence in life. By giving mobility, through scuba diving and enduring limiting physical challenges, Hoser knows that he is making a difference in these people’s lives. Now he is hoping to meet some handicapped people who want to learn to dive as well as others who believe in his dream. To learn how you can help, visit www.Hilltop-Diving.com or call (610) 287-7270.

Hilltop Diving put its concern for today’s youth into action and provided the graduates of Perkiomen Valley High School a place for kids to go after their prom that is not only drug free but loads of fun. With an Atlantis backdrop courtesy of the Philadelphia Flower Show, the 2009 graduates were able to dive into some real fun. Jim Hoser of Hilltop Diving, Schwenksville, Pa., donated the use of scuba equipment and instructors for the night so that over 126 kids could get into the pool and party like the fish from 11 p.m. to 5 a.m. “They all had a blast,” Hoser says. “Eighteen instructors and 30 divers stayed on and worked with the kids showing them how to dive. It was a lot of fun.” Hoser came in with his guys and helped the school station PTV shoot an underwater commercial that would air to the students at school. School officials said that more than 400 kids enjoyed the post-prom party and Hilltop Diving has been asked to become a part of the schools physical education program teaching the kids about scuba diving. Way to get involved Hilltop Diving. For more info visit www.Hilltop-Diving.com.

By Rick Stratton
Publisher, Dive News Network
Kept in stitches

“A baseball has 216 stitches. Thanks to an eel, my hand has 342. I have the use of my hand because of those stitches, and I have those stitches because of DAN. They were definitely there for me.”

James Volk
DAN Member

DAN is here for you.

www.DiversAlertNetwork.org

For more information, contact
Divers Alert Network
6 West Colony Place
Durham, NC 27705
Toll Free 1-800-446-2671

*Testimonial given October 2007

*Insurance not included with Membership. Membership and insurance information applies only to DAN America. Additional fees apply to add insurance plans. DAN insurance programs administered by DAN Services, Inc. DAN is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.
My expectations were great when I embarked on a 10-day trip to the Philippines, with plans to dive everything from World War II shipwrecks to lush coral reefs off islands that comprise the Philippines archipelago. I chose three of 7,107 islands, some barely break the surface of the water, that divide the South China Sea and the Sulu Sea from the Pacific Ocean.

Two days of travel later I was at the city of Tagbilaran in Bohol. Along with eight other divers, I boarded a van bound for the Bohol Beach Club, a half-hour away on Panglao Island. Situated among manicured grounds, a few yards from the beach, the accommodations here focus on divers’ needs.

Any qualms about going such a distance disappeared the following morning, when I sank into the waters off Panglao Island. The reef slopes gradually before dropping off, where it’s thick with giant gorgonian fans – some as tall as a diver. It was calm with no current and visibility of about 80 feet. Our guides, Ramon and Jiego, found more nudibranchs than I’d ever seen before in crevasses and human-sized fans. Some were black with a mere hint of color, while others were neon blue, orange or red. I almost mistook the Notodoris minor for a bright yellow sponge. In the shallows, giant sepia, yellow and white anemones carpet the floor while clown sweetlips dart in and out of the anemone’s tentacles. Black-tail barracuda cruise this area, and hawksbill turtles stop to feed on the substrata.

I would have missed a tiny yellow frogfish on our second dive at Recos’ Wall had Ramon not pointed it out. On the other hand, it was hard to miss a massive school of jacks and a bait ball of silversides. Most dives are from outrigger boats called bancas, which have been fitted comfortably to accommodate divers. The Bohol Beach Club staff ran the operation expertly. They loaded, changed tanks and offloaded gear faster and more efficiently than any of us.

We were on the move again the next day to visit the Tarsier monkeys, the smallest in the world, and the Chocolate Hills in Tagbilaran, where we took the Ocean Jet ferry to Dumaguete, on the east coast of Negros Island. The luxurious Bahura Dive Resort boasts a protected sanctuary house reef. Dive trips reach the renowned Apo Island in just 25 minutes by banca from their shores. Local officials have implemented strict marine sanctuary rules, and the results are visible.

Because of unfavorable sea conditions, Apo Island can be difficult to impossible to
reach between June and November. During the rest of the year, guides aren’t sure about currents until they reach the island. We were fortunate. Finning slightly, moorish idols and butterflyfish created wild patterns against the reef when we skinned down the gradual slope. I found several nudibranchs and a minute seahorse in one spot and, in an overhang a ghost pipefish. Barrel sponges and black coral fronds, gargantuan and drab in comparison to the tiny, brightly colored nudibranchs, grow at bizarre angles on the shallow wall below. Turtles cruise this island, and we were told to be on the lookout for Napoleon wrasses and blacktip and whitetip sharks. On our way up from the second dive, a sea snake accompanied us to the surface. By multi-level diving, I was able to extend my dives to 58 minutes each, with maximum depths of 113 and 66 feet respectively, eking out very minute of this stunning display of reef fish among hard and soft corals.

It was checkout time again, and a flight back to Manila, a connecting flight to Coron,
Palawan, a ride in a “jeepney” (open air transports, originally fashioned out of reclaimed U.S. Army vehicles) over dirt roads and a boat ride to our final destination, Club Paradise. Endemic vegetation, coconut palms and stunning white sand create a lushness that’s intensified by the tropical sun. The island is a protected nesting ground for turtles. The impossibly clear water below becomes a feeding ground for them and dugongs, sea cows similar to manatees, plus a myriad species of fish – blennies, eels, groupers, trigger-, file, butterfly-, soldier-, squirrel-, frog- devilfish and giant clams to name a few. Best yet, Coron Bay has become the wreck-diving capital of the Philippines.

In September 1944, Admiral “Bull” Halsey sent out reconnaissance planes to map out a route to the northwest. When pilots discovered a Japanese fleet at Coron Bay, attacks were ordered and many of the ships were sunk. Nine have been discovered, however, the U.S. Navy’s records indicate several more were destroyed and await discovery.

We dived the Kyokuzan Maru, dubbed the Dimalanta wreck, at the northeast end of Busuanga. The 450-foot Japanese cargo ship – possibly an army auxiliary supply ship – sunk on Sept. 24, 1944. Her mast starts at about 40 feet, and the wheelhouse is at 70 feet. Her deck level is at 90 feet and her hull sinks into the sand at 140. We’re told it takes five dives to see the entire wreck.

Nose-diving down, I was disappointed that the visibility was so poor. Apparently, during the cooler climes of the rainy season, visibility improves, whereas, the hot, sunny, dry season creates a plankton bloom, which reduces the visibility to a few feet. Still, at 90 feet I was happy swimming across great slabs of metal coated thick with coral and sponges. There were fish around – when I could see them. I dipped down into one of the holds and could just make out a vehicle. Had I not been told a car and truck are within I’d have never been able to identify what I saw. I swam in and around the wheelhouse, looking through portholes, losing and then finding my dive buddy again. Whether underwater or topside, I’ll always be fascinated by manmade structures, no matter what their form.

Rolf Winkelhausen, PADI master scuba diver trainer, and Dirk Fahrenbach, PADI master instructor, schedule trips on their liveaboard boat to visit other wrecks. Among them are the Black Island wreck, a coastal vessel about 120 feet long, which ran aground on the reef and sank, and the Olympia Maru, a 450-foot Japanese freighter, which lies on its starboard side. On her heavily encrusted port side you’ll see corals and colorful sponges, an ideal hiding and feeding grounds for a teeming variety of fish and invertebrate life. It’s eerie to swim among these and other supply ships and freighters, the Kogyo Maru, Irako Mamya Maru and the Tangat. The wrecks have become artificial reefs, decorated with great varieties of life.

Philippine scientists say the land area is slowly shrinking as the sea level rises by 1.8 millimeters per year. This would put most of the country underwater in less than 150 years. As we have seen already in the U.S., global warming affects everyone. Hopefully, through a universal effort we’ll be able to curb its effects. For now, we’re able to enjoy fantastic reef life underwater and the absence of signal lights or honking horns topside. And there’s no light pollution at night, as well. I looked up and saw the Southern Cross shining bright.

**GOING THERE**

There are Department of Tourism offices in Chicago, Los Angeles, New York and San Francisco.


Pack as lightly as possible. Depending on the domestic carrier’s weight allowance (10 kilos for some), you can be charged heavily for both checked-in and carry-on bags.

**Denise Mattia is a New York City-based freelance travel writer and underwater photographer. Contact her at SCUBAMATTI@att.net.**
WRECK FACTS

▲ Four crew struggle to secure the foresail as the English clipper ship Garthsnaid makes its way in a storm at the turn of the century. Photo Courtesy Ellsworth Boyd Maritime Archive

By Ellsworth Boyd

George Renshall of New Haven, Conn., is researching square-rigged windjammers and asks about the Garthsnaid, a 20th-century merchant ship.

Hailed as one of the finest in the fleet of sailing vessels at the turn of the century, the Garthsnaid was one of William Garthwaite’s Marine Navigation Co. ships. The three-masted bark transported general cargo from the British Isles to Africa, South America and Australia. In 1923, after 31 years of service, the sleek windjammer was damaged and taken out of service in Melbourne, Australia. Reduced to a homely coal hulk, and taken out of service in Melbourne, Australia, More details may be found in The Era of Clipper Ships by Donald Gunn Ross III.

Susan McLeod of Lancaster, Pa., wants to know if the two steam locomotives that were found in 80 feet of water off Long Branch, N.J., were part of the cargo from the shipwreck Arundo.

Most sources I’ve contacted say this is unlikely since the Arundo, sunk in 1942, lies a few miles away in 125 feet of water. The Long Branch discoveries are small locomotives, resting on the bottom about 20 feet apart. Speculation is they may have been shipped from somewhere along our coast and toppled off a transportation ship that was caught in rough waters.

Tony Vaughn of Racine, Wis., asks if “some sort of treasure” was salvaged from the Pewabic, a passenger/cargo ship that went down in Lake Huron in 1865.

The “treasure” was a large supply of copper ingots and aggregate stored deep in the Pewabic’s hold when it sank in Thunder Bay after being struck by the cargo vessel Meteor. Fifty of the 125 passengers and crew were rescued by the Meteor, which escaped with little damage, while the copper-laden ship went down seven miles off Alpena, Mich., in 180 feet of water. Many attempts were made to retrieve the copper—minted in the ore-rich Keweenaw Peninsula—including salvors who used dynamite and a diving bell to free the “treasure” from the hold of the 225-foot-long ship. Half of the cargo was salvaged during World War I by workers from the Mueller Brass Co. of Port Huron. In 1974, entrepreneur Gregory Bush recovered most of the remaining 200 tons of ingots and aggregate, while battling Thunder Bay’s waves and currents. The Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center at Alpena features films and exhibits of some of the 200 shipwrecks of Thunder Bay.

Gerry McDonald of the Maryland Hydronauts, Baltimore, Md., would like to know more about the New Jersey, a wreck he explored in 60 feet of water eight miles from the western shore of the Chesapeake Bay.

This is the “Pitcher Wreck,” known for its cargo of milk-glass molasses and hobnail syrup pitchers. This Old Bay Line steam packet freighter sank in 1870 when it caught fire near the main shipping lanes leading to and from the port of Baltimore. The 166-foot-long, wooden-propeller steamship was only eight years old. It was on its regular Baltimore-to-Norfolk run, loaded with 800 tons of freight and produce, when the fire accidentally started at midship and spread quickly below decks. The captain and crew launched the lifeboats and were rescued by watermen, who transferred them to the steamship Pacific, which happened to be in the vicinity. Author Don Shomette devotes an entire chapter to the New Jersey in his book, Shipwrecks on the Chesapeake, (Tidewater Publishers, Centerville, Md.)

Both Shomette and McDonald caution divers about the poor visibility and thick blankets of silt surrounding the wreck.

Jim Armiger of Sykesville, Md., asks if there’s a book that gives details of the demise of the San Pedro and San Ignacio of the New Spain Fleet that sank in 1733 off the Florida Keys.

There’s an entire chapter about the fleet in Treasures of the Spanish Main: Shipwrecked Galleons in the New World by John C. Fine. The book also includes excellent photos of the ships and their treasures. For information on how to order the book contact the author at: johnfine2@juno.com. ■

Send your wreck questions to Ellsworth Boyd, Wreck Facts, 1120 Bernoudy Rd., White Hall, Md. 21161. Be sure to include a stamped, self-addressed envelope for a personal reply. You can also e-mail Ellsworth at ellsboyd@aol.com.

Some join us and enjoy some of the best diving in Costa Rica! Not certified? Not a problem. We offer many courses from beginners to Dive Master.

DIVE TODAY!

011 (506) 2672-1259
011 (506) 2672-1260
info@costaricadiving.net
www.costaricadiving.net

Dive Training

Study at Home

Recreational & Commercial Programs Available

Now on our virtual campus. Then do your practicals hands-on. With the same teaching staff that teaches our full-time students. We’re the only college whose campus is in the National Marine Sanctuary of San Blas National Park.

Florida Keys Community College
305-809-3556

Train in Key West, FL
GET IMMERSED IN STYLE

Diving Unlimited International’s new ActionWear drysuit undergarment may bring the fashion trend of wearing underwear as outerwear to diving. The two-piece outfit consists of a pants and a pullover top made from double layers of 300-weight stretch fleece. Under a drysuit, ActionWear can help a diver get immersed in comfort even in 45- to 60°F water, depending on personal tolerance to temperature, exposure time and activity level. The fleece is pill-resistant and lined with a plush velour for added comfort against the skin. A one-third-length zipper on the top stops just above a marsupial-style pocket that zips closed as well. A standup collar provides extra warmth for protection on breezy boat decks. Thumb loops on sleeves and stirrups on the pants keep the underwear in place while donning a drysuit. A drawstring cinches the pants at the waist. Smart white stitching and an embroidered DUI logo accent the black suit, which is shipped with a DiveWear bag for storage. Suits are available in six sizes ranging from XS to XX at shops that carry DUI gear. www.dui-online.com.

LIGHTEN UP YOUR TRAVELS

Travel divers aiming to keep dive bags light enough to avoid airline baggage overweight charges might want to consider TUSA’s new RS-670 regulator system. The R-600 balanced-diaphragm first stage weighs less than 1.5 pounds and is quite compact, yet it has two high-pressure and four low-pressure ports easing hose placement for personal fit and comfort. It is available with either DIN or yoke tank fittings. The S-70 second stage is equipped with a flow adjustment to set the air supply volume to the needs of diving conditions. Multiple thread screws enable the regulator can fine tune the exhalation as well. The mouthpiece is designed to be stable and comfortable even with a light bite to reduce fatigue during long dives. A universal swivel hose connector eliminates hose tension for added comfort. A chrome ring provides stylish trim on the stainless steel face plate. The system is available through TUSA shops and is eligible for TUSA Care free parts for life program. www.tusa.com.

GIVE HOSE SOME THOUGHT

TUSA put some thought into redesigning the buoyancy compensator inflator / deflator hose to come up with its new Active Purge Assist system. The APA couples a pneumatically assisted purge function with a newly designed over-pressure exhaust valve. The result is said to be provide more immediate results when adding air to a BC or venting it. A can be dumped in three ways: via the APA system, a tug on the hose or through the oral inflator fitting. The hose and fittings are hydro-dynamically designed to reduce drag in the water. It can be worn in a traditional over-the-shoulder manner or slung under the left shoulder to further streamline a diver in the water. The hose is designed to be low maintenance to reduce the chances of inflator malfunction. TUSA is offering the hose as an option on its BCs as well as individually to replace existing hoses on standard BCs. www.tusa.com.

GET FLEXIBLE AT WORK

Unlike many Pelican lights, the new 2365 is not designed to go diving. However, service technicians may find it to be a handy light at the workbench because its 15-inch flexible cable neck puts light where you need it, even in tight spaces in gear or crannies where tiny screws land after toppling off the bench. The light-emitting diode puts out 45 lumens for up to 15 hours on two AA batteries. The tough black anodized aluminum battery case is machined with a no-slip grip pattern. It also has a magnetic clip to snap the light into place on any steel surface to hold the beam exactly where it should be. Even with batteries, the light weighs only 9.3 ounces and can slip into the toolbox for repairing gear on the go. As with all Pelican products, the light comes with the company’s lifetime guarantee: “You break it, we repair it … forever.” www.pelican.com.

Suggest products to review and read earlier Gear Check items by product categories at www.sternereditorial.com.
TRUE TEST FOR WRECK DIVERS

Jim and Pat Stayer’s videos often are litmus tests for divers. Wreck divers will love them while reef lovers will wonder about wreck divers’ sanity. “Sitting Sands of Time” from their Out of the Blue Productions provides just such a test. The 21-minute video tells the tales of four wrecks, the Alex Nimick, Myron, Miztec and Allegheny. All went down in shallow waters off Lake Superior’s Whitefish Point early in the 20th century as they tried to reach the protection from raging storms offered by Whitefish Bay just beyond the point. As the video cruises the bottom, Jim Stayer describes the function of each pulley, engine part, brass ring and other items strewn on the bottom, often pausing to read names and specs off makers’ plates and other identifying items. Wreck divers will hang on every word and marvel at the superb condition of these parts that are preserved in the lake’s cold freshwater. Still there are parts to catch the ear of non-wreck divers in the narratives on the history of each vessel, and quirks about its crewmen, including one captain who had the misfortune to be at the wheel of three of the four wrecks. The video’s title is drawn from two visits to the Nimick one year apart. During the interim, sands at the 24-foot-deep site shifted uncover even more bits of wreckage, including what might have been the failed part that led to its demise. Reef divers will roll their eyes. Wrecker divers will click to the screen featuring the Stayer’s other videos so they can order compete sets. www.greatlakes.net/~divelog.

FICTION AUTHOR GETS SERIOUS

Paul J. Mila took more than notes as he crisscrossed the dive sites of the world to research his adventure novels on Terry Hunter, his globe-trotting protagonist. He took a lot of underwater photos as well. Now with “Basic Underwater Photography” he is branching from fiction into guidebooks with a text intended to help neophytes get the most from their new point-and-shoot digital cameras. All images were taken in the camera’s “auto” setting, he notes, suggesting that budding photographers can master the additional control offered with manual operation as they become more comfortable with their cameras and craft. The four chapters take the reader from preparing to dive with a camera, getting accessories such as good external strobes, basic techniques and post-dive procedures for maintaining the camera. The techniques chapter is less about photography than it is about positioning, buoyancy and breath control to help divers get close enough to shoot subjects without scaring them away. This book won’t turn a newbie into the next David Doubilet overnight. The National Geographic photog spent decades underwater developing his craft. However its tips could help non-pros bring home shots that will wow members of their dive clubs and maybe even get into print. Unlike Mila’s fiction, this book isn’t in Barnes & Noble yet. Find it at www.milabooks.com.

IMAGE WILL LEAVE YOU ‘SHAKY’

Books and videos are the mainstay of Book Log, but a picture recently became available that is worth so many thousands of words that it warrants a review. Artist Mick St. Clair created a painting of “Old Shaky”, as Texas Tower No. 4 was dubbed by its crew, as it faced angry seas before succumbing to a nor’easter off the New Jersey Shore on Jan. 15, 1961. Remains of this Cold War era radar dome now are visited by adventurous wreck divers and memories of the 28 men who perished are still cherished by those who knew them. St. Clair’s depiction captures the spirit of that night with frothy waves and rain driven by fierce winds. A taller wave in the distance suggests that the coup de grace is nearing as lights of the tower windows glimmer in the storm. This is a picture that will raise goose bumps on wreck divers and anyone who’s ever been caught at sea during a raging gale. St. Clair has 200 16-by 20-inch prints on archival 20-by 24-inch 100 percent cotton paper. Each is numbered and signed by the artist. An Ultrachrome process accurately depicts the original and, with proper handling, will not fade for decades. For information, e-mail stclairart@yahoo.com.

Read earlier Book Log reviews by genre or call attention to books and videos to review at www.sternereditorial.com.

WIN!

JEFFREY GALLANT’S DIVING ALMANAC & YEARBOOK 2008

QUESTION

What was the first scuba diving club?

819.477.1968
WWW.DIVINGALMANAC.COM

ATTENTION WRECK DIVERS

Wreck Hunter

By award winning author Terry Dwyer

Author available for your engagements... 
host a presentation, book signing, shipwreck seminar or project.

www.wreckhunter.ca

PADI Diving Society members can earn free gifts on the road to PADI Master Scuba Diver™ by enrolling in the Specialty of the Month:

Dry Suit Diver

Contact your local PADI Dive Center or Resort or visit padi.com/DrySuit for more information.

The Way the World Learns to Dive®
# DIVE DIRECTORY

## Northeast

### Connecticut

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shop Name</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Category</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enfield Scuba &amp; Watersports</td>
<td>Enfield</td>
<td>(860) 767-1960</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divers Cove LLC</td>
<td>Essex</td>
<td>(860) 563-0119</td>
<td>Store/Charter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scuba Made Easy</td>
<td>Pawcatuck</td>
<td>(860) 303-4612</td>
<td>Instructor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brownstone Park</td>
<td>Portland</td>
<td>(860) 860-0208</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scubashack</td>
<td>Rocky Hill</td>
<td>(860) 303-4612</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Scuba Diving</td>
<td>Southington</td>
<td>(860) 621-8265</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capt. Saam's Scuba School</td>
<td>Stamford</td>
<td><a href="http://www.Capt-Saam.com">www.Capt-Saam.com</a></td>
<td>Store/Charter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New England Dive Center</td>
<td>Wallingford</td>
<td>(203) 284-1880</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scuba World</td>
<td>Dover</td>
<td>(800) 861-3483</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water World Scuba School</td>
<td>Rehoboth Beach</td>
<td>(302) 645-9490</td>
<td>Instructor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salty Dog Dive Center</td>
<td>Wilmington</td>
<td>(302) 994-3483</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scubashack</td>
<td>Portland</td>
<td>(860) 563-0119</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scuba World</td>
<td>Dover</td>
<td>(800) 861-3483</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water World Scuba School</td>
<td>Rehoboth Beach</td>
<td>(302) 645-9490</td>
<td>Instructor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salty Dog Dive Center</td>
<td>Wilmington</td>
<td>(302) 994-3483</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barber's Skindivers Paradise</td>
<td>Auburn</td>
<td>(207) 784-7200</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeast Charter Boat Company</td>
<td>Eliot/Portsmouth</td>
<td>(603) 235-5526</td>
<td>Charter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MaineDiversScubaCenter.com</td>
<td>Portland</td>
<td>(207) 775-3467</td>
<td>Store/Charter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mainely Scuba</td>
<td>Wilton</td>
<td>(207) 645-9038</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Underwater Playground</td>
<td>Edgewood</td>
<td>(410) 679-6413</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Massachusetts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shop Name</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Category</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diver Jim’s / Belmont Scuba</td>
<td>Belmont</td>
<td>(617) 484-5246</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burlington Scuba</td>
<td>Burlington</td>
<td>(781) 272-5164</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anchor Diving Services</td>
<td>Buzzards Bay</td>
<td>(508) 232-1121</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeast Scuba</td>
<td>Chelmsford</td>
<td>(978) 256-2300</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max’s Divers Supply</td>
<td>Dartmouth</td>
<td>(978) 343-3330</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andy’s Sport Shop</td>
<td>Fitchburg</td>
<td>(978) 343-3330</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Down Under Diving Ventures</td>
<td>Gloucester</td>
<td>(978) 256-8762</td>
<td>Charter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easy Diver</td>
<td>Gloucester</td>
<td>(902) 345-2215</td>
<td>Charter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freedom Diving Corp.</td>
<td>Gloucester</td>
<td>(978) 283-2600</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buzzards Bay Diving Ct.</td>
<td>Onset</td>
<td>(508) 291-7282</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gauntlet Dive Charters</td>
<td>Salem</td>
<td>(617) 480-5261</td>
<td>Charter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westfield Watersports</td>
<td>Southwick</td>
<td>(413) 569-1287</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At The Waters Edge</td>
<td>Westfield</td>
<td>(413) 532-5110</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boston Harbor Diving Co.</td>
<td>Winthrop</td>
<td>(617) 846-5151</td>
<td>Charter</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### New Hampshire

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shop Name</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Category</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aquanauts Scuba Shop</td>
<td>Concord</td>
<td>(603) 228-9981</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UW Sports of New Hampshire</td>
<td>Keene</td>
<td>(603) 357-4430</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dive’s Den Dive Shop Inc.</td>
<td>Manchester</td>
<td>(603) 627-2556</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dive Winnipesaukee</td>
<td>Wolfeboro</td>
<td>(603) 569-8080</td>
<td>Store/Charter</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### New Jersey

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shop Name</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Category</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Venture III</td>
<td>Belmar</td>
<td>(732) 928-4519</td>
<td>Charter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gypsy Blood Dive</td>
<td>Brielle</td>
<td>(973) 949-4599</td>
<td>Charter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sea Lion</td>
<td>Brielle</td>
<td>(973) 887-3337</td>
<td>Charter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atlantic Divers</td>
<td>Egg Harbor</td>
<td>(609) 641-7722</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hoboken Dive Center</td>
<td>Hoboken</td>
<td>hobokendive.com</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Coast Diving Supply</td>
<td>Northfield</td>
<td>(609) 646-5090</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max-Val International</td>
<td>Pennsauken</td>
<td>(800) 325-5711</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### New York

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shop Name</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Category</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Finger Lake Scuba</td>
<td>Auburn</td>
<td>(800) 764-3483</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Virginia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shop Name</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Category</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Splash Dive Center</td>
<td>Alexandria</td>
<td>(703) 603-7900</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region</td>
<td>City</td>
<td>Phone Number</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Atlantis</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chantilly</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chester</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Virginia Beach</strong></td>
<td>(757) 481-7949</td>
<td></td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Burlington</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(802) 865-2771</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chelchester</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(802) 862-9963</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Eagan</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(651) 681-8434</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Minneapolis</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(612) 925-4818</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bridgetown</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(314) 731-5003</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Joplin</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(888) 565-3483</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kettering</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(937) 298-2999</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Newark</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(740) 344-2803</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Northwood</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(419) 691-2991</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Portage Quarry</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(715) 486-8008</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bowling Green</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(815) 479-0996</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Crystal Lake</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(815) 479-0996</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ecole</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Glen Ellyn</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Huntley</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lake Zurich</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(847) 540-7211</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lakeview</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(847) 633-6969</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Malone</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(309) 797-9721</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Naperville</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(630) 579-1150</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Plainfield</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(815) 267-8400</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Portage</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Richmond Hill</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(613) 267-8400</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Elkhart</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(574) 264-3528</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Alpena</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(989) 556-6228</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ann Arbor</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(810) 225-9868</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Battle Creek</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(847) 760-8551</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Benton Harbor</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(810) 225-9868</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Brighton</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Clinton Twp</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(586) 792-2040</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Davison</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(989) 444-7241</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>All Seasons Diving, Co</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(517) 485-3894</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fair Haven</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(568) 725-1991</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Flint</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Georgetown</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(616) 531-9440</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kentwood</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(616) 949-9577</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lansing</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(517) 485-3894</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Novi</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(248) 615-3483</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rogers City</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(989) 734-7590</td>
<td>Charter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shelby Township</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Traverse City</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(231) 943-3483</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Upper Michigan</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(906) 863-7330</td>
<td>Store/Charter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Vernon</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Brockville</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(613) 267-8400</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kitchener</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(519) 596-1239</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Newmarket</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(905) 264-3528</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>York</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Conception Bay S</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(709) 834-7234</td>
<td>Charter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Brentwood</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(506) 342-1011</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bristol</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(506) 634-8265</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sheridan</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shelby Township</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Vernon</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rochester</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(715) 786-4200</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Farmington</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Store/Charter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>**Portage **</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Saginaw</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(989) 556-3483</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bay City</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cape Breton Is.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(902) 345-2215</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wolfeboro</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(603) 225-9868</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Milton</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>White Lake</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Store/Charter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lake Orion</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Clarks Summit</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Conesus</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(585) 225-9868</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Findley</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(866) 659-2334</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>St. Catharines</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ontario</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(905) 264-3528</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Queens</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(905) 264-3528</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Saginaw</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(989) 556-3483</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bay City</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(989) 556-3483</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kane</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(905) 264-3528</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lake Orion</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Store/Charter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>North Manitou</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Coleman</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(905) 264-3528</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chippewa Falls</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ferndale</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(506) 342-1011</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Saint John</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(506) 634-8265</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shelby Township</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cape Breton Is.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(902) 345-2215</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Huron</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(989) 556-3483</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bay City</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(989) 556-3483</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kane</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(905) 264-3528</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lake Orion</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>North Manitou</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Store/Charter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Coleman</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(905) 264-3528</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chippewa Falls</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ferndale</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(506) 342-1011</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Saint John</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(506) 634-8265</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shelby Township</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cape Breton Is.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(902) 345-2215</td>
<td>Store</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Meet Mr. Big.

Voted #1 for Big Animals 10 Years In a Row!

DIVE THE EXUMA CAYS
DIVE CONCEPTION ISLAND

Stella Maris Resort Club is the focal point of adventure diving that will take your breath away! Conception Island Wall, heart-pounding Sharks Reef, and the World’s Deepest Blue Hole! Snorkel a adventure from biking to kayaking... a sophisticated retreat at a barefoot price.

800-426-0466   954-359-8236
info@stellamarisresort.com
www.stellamarisresort.com

TWICE THE FUN!
HALF THE COST!
OUT ISLAND LIVEABOARD DIVING
ONLY $899 PER WEEK
UP TO 20 DIVES

www.blackbeard-cruises.com
800.327.9600

LUXURY LIVEABOARD DIVING
8 day 7 night Nassau to Exuma Cays 22 passengers 11 crew 102 feet 3 decks aquacatcruises.com 888.327.9600

DIVE THE EXUMA CAYS
DIVE CONCEPTION ISLAND

• unlimited diving
• “Best of the Bahamas” dive sites
• wait dives, wrecks, reefs, night diving
• Air, tanks, weights provided

www.SeaDragonBahamas.com

It’s Bigger In The Bahamas
Reefs, Wrecks, Walls, Sharks, Dolphins...
Our 700 islands could change you forever.
Thousands of Dive Sites only minutes from Miami. Find out more from any of our dive operators.

www.BahamsDiving.com

Bahamas Diving Association P.O. Box 21707 • Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33335 • 1-800-866-DIVE • Intl. 954-236-9292 • info@bahamasdiving.com. U.S. Operated Customs and Immigration Preclearance Service from Nassau and Freeport. Non-stop, Direct Flights from many U.S. Cities. All U.S. Visitors are required to have valid passports for travel to The Islands of The Bahamas.

Dive Andros
The Unspoiled Bahamas Vacation
3rd largest barrier reef. Owned by the Birch family since 1960. “Great vacation with Great diving.” Dive, relax, dive, relax...ALL INCLUSIVE RATES. There is so much more to do: fishing, snorkeling, guided island tours...

The Real Bahamas
800.223.6961 | Shbinfo@SmallHope.com
www.smallhope.com/NEdive

www.whitesdiving.com