

Sea Swells LOG



The monthly
newsletter of
The Scuba
Sports Club

May 2004

the anchor line

Hey, Look At Me!

A diver was recently left behind off the coast of California by a dive boat operator. The Coast Guard, PADI, and other organizations were quick to issue statements that stricter regulations on dive boat operators and how they account for divers on their boat are needed. It makes me wonder not only about the dive boat personnel but also about the other divers on board.

Recently I was diving in New England with a group of friends. Towards the end of my second dive I realized I had been down about 65 minutes. The thought ran through my head that I had better end my dive and get back to the boat before they started to worry. I surfaced and boarded the boat. As I was sitting down taking off my tank I scanned the boat. My first question was where was a friend of mine. The response was that he was not back yet. I then said to the captain, "We may have a problem. His air consumption is similar to mine and I was very low." Immediately the captain, divemaster, and I were on top of the boat scanning the surface for bubbles and the horizon. The sharp eye of the captain noticed an orange sausage out to sea. My friend was safe.

The point of this story is that the group of people who went out on our boat knew each other. We knew each other's dive habits. We dove together as a club. Most of us were divemasters or above, trained to be more aware. That first rescue course we had taken had instilled in us an awareness not only of our surroundings but of the people we were diving with. This person on board the California dive boat was not missed. He may have been a solo diver. He may not have stood out of the crowd. The next time that you go diving on an unfamiliar boat or with a group of people you do not know, ask yourself, "Will I be missed?" Get to know others on board. Make yourself noticed by the crew. Interact with your fellow divers. Get up and say, "Look at me!" **Be prepared!** You may not be so lucky as to have the trained eye of scout Zack Mayberry and the other scouts aboard the vessel *Argus* that rescued diver Dan Carlock off the coast of California.

Zack, job well done.

Dive safe, Dive often
Bob Bak, President & Eagle Scout

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◆ TSSC May Meeting May 12

Peter Venoutsos speaks on Diving the Wrecks of Lake Ontario and the Upper Saint Lawrence River. See page 7.

◆ Fort Wetherill Beach Dive and Picnic May 22

This is always a great way to get wet—it's fun and it's free! See page 7.

◆ TSSC June Meeting June 8

There will be a special treat next month—we'll have desserts and The Blue Planet at our June meeting. See what Pat has to say about the Whitby Castle's desserts (p.3)!

◆ Saint Lawrence Dive Weekend July 10-11

Enjoy warm, clear water and lots of wrecks—pencil this in on your calendar now! Page 7.

The Scuba Sports Club would like to congratulate the following club members:

- Soliman Shenouda, who has been selected as the 2004 recipient of the Institute of Food Technologists' International Award. This award honors an IFT member for promoting the international exchange of ideas in food technology or successful transfer of food technology to an economically depressed area in a developing or developed nation.
- Randi Eisen, who was elected executive vice president of the Long Island Divers Association for 2004.



THE SCUBA SPORTS CLUB

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Submissions to Sea Swells Log may be made in electronic or paper form by the 20th of the month. Electronic submissions (email) are preferred and should be sent to

SeaSwells@BeneathTheSea.org

Submission of paper copy should be sent to

Anne Judge
2 Pine Mountain Road
Danbury, CT 06810
Fax (208) 485-4641

Please call or email to confirm fax receipt. For information send email to SeaSwells.org or call Anne at (203) 778-3584.

Scientists Debunk Fin Claims

by Lada Simek

In its January issue, *Undercurrent* reports on a paper by researchers at the University of Buffalo in the *Undersea and Hyperbaric Medicine Journal*. They find that "Venturis, vents, troughs and splits did not improve the performance of the tested fins." In fact, some split fins worked better if the blades were duct-taped together. There were differences among the seven fins tested, but these were not attributable to the "bells and whistles" as the manufacturers claim. Three claims were found to be false:

Mares Quattro

Claim (from a review in *Sport Diver*): The flexing center channels translate leg movement into directional thrust, while the stiffening side rails increase the blade's effectiveness in frog kicks and sculls.

Finding: Channeling of water down the fin by troughs or rubber channels does not appear to improve thrust or economy.

Scubapro Twin Jets

Claim (from an ad in *Sport Diver*): Proprietary drag-reducing vents and extended side plates increase leverage and power.

Finding: The use of venturis, or vents, either forward or rearward facing, does not appear to improve thrust or economy. Water does not pass through the vents, thus they do not relieve the negative thrust in the recovery phase.

Apollo

Claim (from Apollo's web site): The split fin design allows for more power and less effort than any other fin.

Finding: There was no difference in energy cost between the split fin Apollo and the same model with the split taped closed, suggesting that the split was ineffective in improving economy. The longitudinal splits also do not appear to improve its thrust.

(The Apollo was voted the best of seven in performance, however.)

TSSC's Dive Classification System

Every dive on TSSC's schedule (see the back page of this newsletter) has a "class" assigned to it. This class is an indication of the expected difficulty of this dive. Below are the descriptions of the three dive classes.

But remember, any dive can be more difficult than expected, depending on the conditions at the time of the dive! These classifications are only to be used as a guide when choosing which dives you will sign up for.

A: Be prepared for an advanced dive to depths of 130 feet. These are usually wreck dives in difficult conditions, including cold water, low visibility, significant currents, and wave heights over 3 feet. The diver should be self-sufficient and very experienced in these adverse conditions.

B: Be prepared for an open-water intermediate dive to depths of under 80 feet. Cold water and low visibility are to be expected. Currents and wave heights should be moderate. The diver should dive at least once per month and be mentally and physically at ease in the water.

C: Expect a shallow dive in a relatively protected area, but be prepared for cold water and low visibility. Some current and moderate wave heights are possible. Appropriate for beginning open-water divers, divers new to Northeast diving, and divers who love lots of relaxed bottom time.

All divers must come equipped with the appropriate equipment, in proper working order, as required by certifying agency as minimum equipment.



Open House Party

Friday, April 16 — Whitby Castle

It's finally spring in Westchester. Everyone was wondering when it would finally arrive. Just in time for TSSC's Open House Party 2004! We were greeted on Friday evening, April 16, with sunshine, warm temperatures, and traffic, traffic, traffic! But when we arrived at the Whitby Castle, we were greeted by the friendly staff, a beautifully set room, and an absolutely wonderful meal set up.

Paul Richards put in a long day at Whitby, but you would not know it from the energy and friendliness he displayed throughout the evening. The South Ballroom was set up with five large tables to allow our group to

minge. 33 members and 9 new friends joined us. Welcome to Bill Darcy, Paul Phillpeli, Jonathan Flaks, Elena Giordano, Carrie Goldkopf, Bruce Ansnes, Brian and Carol McCauley, and Rocco DeLeo. We hope you join our group. If we didn't scare you away, you should fit in real well.

Gregg Macaulay was raffling off prizes for what seemed like all evening. Everyone went home with their cache, and newbies went home with at least two. There were books by Sylvia Earle, pocket tool knives, frisbees, t-shirts, hats, a signed poster from Pascal, and many, many more!

When Gregg wasn't pulling raffle

tickets out of the hat, Bob Bak was asking members and guests for their most memorable dive stories. There were some great stories and some were very funny. Thank you, Soliman and Lada! The entertainment was top notch.

I almost forgot to mention dessert! There were five or six cakes and tarts that were to die for. I ODED on sugar that night, but I had to try them all.

For those club members who were not able to make it, we missed you, and your stories. We hope to see you all soon!

Let's all have a wonderful dive season!

Pat Forgacs

The Scuba Sports Club would like to thank the following for providing door prizes to our club's Open House party:

*Best Publishing
Bob Davenport & Davenport Industries
Blue Horizons Dive Center*

*Beneath The Sea (BTS)
Divers Alert Network (DAN)
Dive Rite
Don Reynolds*

*PADI
1000 Islands Divers
ScubaPro*

Do Easter Eggs Stay Fresher in 45° Water?

Saturday, April 24 — Dutch Springs Easter Egg Dive

This was the haunting question a small group of TSSC divers asked at the Beneath The Sea show in March. So we had to find out for ourselves.

On Saturday, April 24th, our small group, including Lou "What a beautiful sunrise it is here at Dutch" Picchione, Mike and Leslie "second year in a row Easter egg divers and wannabe TSSC members," Don "I think I left my Easter eggs somewhere in Ohio" Reynolds, Pat "yes, Don, Columbus is in Pennsylvania" Forgacs, and Bob "What the heck am I doing here without my third cup of coffee" Bak, assembled in that lovely tropical paradise known as Dutch Springs. We were there for the fifth annual Eggstravaganza. Last year our own Michael Prange won the top prize of an annual pass to Dutch Springs. This year divers from all over the world (sort of) came to search for Easter eggs in support of making Dutch

Springs more accessible to handicapped divers. Andrea hosted this event which was a great success.

The water was clear and cool. But most (hack, hack, hack) of us were eager to go diving. We teamed up: Lou and I, Leslie and Mike, and that Ohio couple Don and Pat. Each pair went in a different direction in hopes of finding the perfect egg. Lou and I dove along the ridge to the fire truck which we found had been plucked clean by previous divers. We then went to the van where we spotted one egg. From there we headed out to the boat and on to the hopper where we found one more lonely egg. We then circled back among the trout and large-mouth bass to the docks where schooling bluegills gathered, much like tropical fish, to say goodbye to us.

We took a break before going on our second dive. Some members are still on

that break, singing "Cleveland Rocks." On our second dive we went to the school bus and a small wreck of a boat off the right rear of the bus. We then followed the line out to the small island underwater where a small plane lies. Bill, did you land it there? We then headed back due to a little thing called "air." It was a good dive. We passed Leslie and Mike along the way.

A little while later we were dining on hot dogs and hamburgers provided by the Dutch Springs staff while reminiscing about old dives. Soon it was on to the prizes for the egg hunt. We cleaned up in the categories of NJ Aquarium tickets (not Sea World) and dive shades. Pat even won a bear and some jewelry. All in all it was a good day. Come dive with us next year! Maybe we can get Mike and Leslie to join us.

Bob Bak

On the Heels of Hurricane Isabel

A Diving Misadventure

by Izzy

On the heels of Hurricane Isabel in September 2003, my buddy Vadim and I left New York at 4:30 on a Friday morning for Brockville, Ontario. Our plan was to catch the afternoon boat dives with ABUCS Scuba, joining other club members there. When we arrived, we didn't even have time to unload our stuff—we went straight to the boat. I was excited that I had arrived in time for the dives despite having had only two hours of sleep, a cold, no breakfast, and a hurried lunch.

We loaded onto a pontoon boat and made our way to the dive site. I assessed the rapidly deteriorating weather conditions—Isabel was just now passing to the west of Brockville, and the wind was increasing—and decided that I could handle the dive since I had experienced similar dive conditions. I felt comfortable enough for this particular dive—in other words, I had no anxiety prior to the dive. I suited up in my drysuit, along with an undergarment used in colder waters. Needless to say, I sweated profusely waiting to get into the water. Meanwhile, Isabel's winds were kicking up abnormal chop and strong surface currents. Vadim entered the water and I followed him.

I deflated my BC and had to dump all the air from my drysuit in order to get a few feet under the surface current. Underwater, I could see Vadim a few feet ahead of me making his way towards the buoy line. I was being pulled away by the current and found myself swimming against it. Seeing that I could not keep up with the current, I decided to surface before being pulled too far downstream, away from the boat. I surfaced and found myself about 20 feet behind the boat and moving away fast. I remained calm, knowing that Captain Helen or her crew would see me. Helen spotted me and threw a life preserver to reel me in. I pointed to the buoy, indicating I wanted to continue my dive, so Helen pulled me towards the buoy.

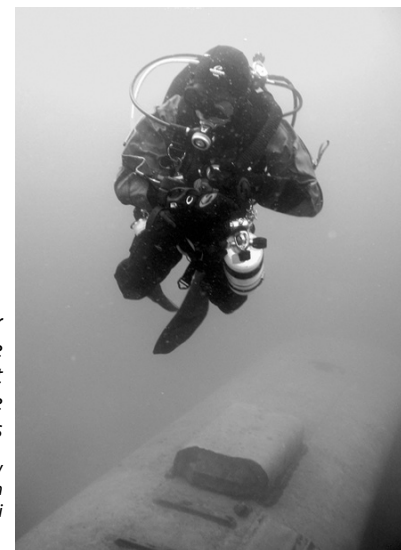
I said to myself, "Great! Everything is working out." Once again, I dumped all of the air from my wing and drysuit and descended the line. With some difficulty, working against the current, I managed to submerge roughly six feet beneath the surface. I could see Vadim clearly. Like a good buddy, he was waiting on the line for me. I then stopped for a minute or so to recover from my match with the current. After establishing a good breathing pattern, I began to feel a little dizzy (maybe from the decongestant I took for my cold symptoms). At that point I decided to abort the dive instead of risking problems at depth. Good call, so far... but unfortunately the story doesn't end here!

I ascended to the surface buoy and inflated my BC. All I needed to do was make my way to the boat, grab hold of a line and pull myself a few feet along the underside of the bow to stairs leading up onto the boat deck. Sounds simple enough, right? When I got to the surface, the current was strong and the chop heavy. A couple of good waves knocked my mask and completely flooded it. An easy exit suddenly evolved into a difficult task. I had to handle this flooded-mask issue quickly. Taking it off risked losing both contact lenses in the waves, but leaving it on would surely displace the lenses because I could not clear the mask in the strong surface current with one hand on the line. If both lenses came out of my eyes I would not be able to see the line leading to the stairs, much less grab it! Easy decision—I took off the mask and handed it to Helen as she directed me to the stairs. As I handed her the mask, I was dunked a few times and lost one lens. I was now half blind, trying to wink shut the blind eye and use the good eye. I tried to tell Helen that I couldn't see, but she couldn't hear me because of the wind. However, I was still OK and in control.

By now the boat was bouncing up and down pretty badly. I still had to make my way to the stairs, with the crashing bow overhead. Half blind, I let go of the buoy line and reached out for the overhead line leading to the stairs. *OOPS AND OH SH*T!* Thanks to my half-blind condition, I completely misjudged the distance to the line and grabbed air instead of line! The current pulled me underwater, directly towards the stern engine. I remembering saying to myself, "Keep cool, this is not a good thing."

I was underwater, beneath a crashing bow, with a partially inflated BC pushing my head towards the surface. I was still "in control," but knew that what I did in the next few seconds would be critical. In a split second I had to come up with options and make a decision. Two options came to mind immediately: get deep fast enough and let the current sweep me down and away, or reach out and try to grab hold of *any* part of the boat. The first option was not desirable—I was positively buoyant, and given those conditions I would simply not have had enough time to deflate and submerge deep enough to get clear of the boat. I risked the crashing stern or being slammed into the boat's engine. I have read of too many incidents in

Continued on next page



Izzy under
more
pleasant
dive
conditions

Photo by
Vadim
Ternovski

Isabel, continued from previous page

which a diver was hit on the head by the boat, lost consciousness, and then drowned. No, thanks, I didn't want to be one of those statistics.

So, I decided on the second option. I extended my arms and, by pure luck, caught a stair with my left hand as I was being swept past it. I said to myself, "hmm, you are pretty damn lucky to catch this stair being half blind and underwater." The current had swept me past the stairs so now I was facing the back of the stairs opposite the platform. I was relieved that my head was above water now and that I was holding onto something solid! "OK, Izzy, just swing yourself around from behind the stairs (into the current) and get up to safety." Yeah, right... easier said than done! I am physically fit and strong but for the next few minutes, I really struggled to swing myself around the stairs. Finally, I managed to get myself up those stairs and back on board.

I was completely exhausted, breathing heavily, and didn't have the strength to stand. Helen stripped off my gear, laid me down, and administered oxygen. The oxygen helped but, oh no, I felt like I was going to black out—maybe my initial dizziness was compounding itself. Helen asked me if I wanted to go to the hospital. I said yes. She could not move from the dive site because divers were in the water, so she radioed shore and activated emergency evacuation procedures. A boat came to ferry me to shore, but the water was so rough that it wasn't able to hook onto the pontoon boat and stretcher me out. I was told to time the swells and jump across from the pontoon boat to the rescue boat. I

said to myself, "Gee, not a very fun Friday so far, and now I have to *jump over?* That's juuuusst greeeeaaat @#^\$#^%!" Anyway, with most of my weight leaning on Zeke (thanks bud!), and with his steady hand, I jumped onto the waiting boat. Vadim hopped on board to accompany me. I was brought to the dock and then on to the hospital. There I was treated while Vadim, Bob, and Pete waited outside. Their presence was reassuring and very much appreciated. I was discharged with a clean bill of health, and a severe case of physical exhaustion and "coming down" from an adrenalin rush. I suppose everything hit me after I was back on board.

On Saturday, though I didn't dive, I made it a point to join TSSC members on their dives and provide surface support. Psychologically, I had to get back in the water to overcome any fear and self-doubt and to put this incident behind me. So on Sunday, I boarded the same pontoon boat and made a dive. No stress and I enjoyed every minute of it. I want to thank my buddy for entering and exiting the water after me. I knew he was watching my back!

I was pleased with my watermanship and my in-water decisions. This situation could easily have gotten out of hand and become potentially fatal. This entire incident happened in only eight minutes and six feet of water, but could easily have drowned me. Hindsight is 20/20, and I now see how a series of abnormal events coalesced in those eight minutes into near-disaster. I have always had a great respect for Mother Nature, but now even more so!

Heartfelt thanks to Vadim, Bob, Pete, Zeke and Pat for their concern, comfort, and support. Kudos to Helen, her excellent staff, and to the guy who did a fireman's carry across the docks and up three flights of stairs!

Izzy (third from left, leaning on boat) prepares to join his fellow club members on the water Saturday.

Photo by Zeke Petryszyn



Area Dive Shops

This list is provided as a convenience. TSSC does not endorse any dive shop.

Aqua Visions Scuba Ltd.

126 Mamaroneck Ave, Mamaroneck NY
(914) 381-1884
AquaVisions.biz
info@aquavisions.biz

Captain Mike's Dive Center

530 City Island Ave, Bronx NY
(718) 885-1588
CaptainMikesDiving.com

Cougar Sports

917 Saw Mill River Rd, Ardsley NY
(914) 693-8877

The Dive Shop

265 Federal Rd, Brookfield CT
(203) 740-9166
TheDiveShopOnline.com
Sherri@TheDiveShopOnline.com

Marsh Scuba Supply

91 Lauer Rd, Poughkeepsie NY
(845) 452-8994
MarshScuba.com
Marsh_Scuba@worldnet.att.net

Orbit Marine Sports Center

3273 Fairfield Ave, Bridgeport CT
(800) 395-3483
OrbitMarine.com
OrbitDive@aol.com

Pan Aqua Diving

460 West 43rd St, New York NY
(800) 434-0884
PanAqua.com
NYstore@PanAqua.com

Pan Aqua Diving

461 Federal Rd, Brookfield CT
(888) 388-3483
PanAqua.com
CTstore@PanAqua.com

Rex Dive Center

144 Water St, Norwalk CT
(888) 260-DIVE (3483)
RexDiveCenter.com
DiveShop@RexDiveCenter.com

Scuba New York

2037 Central Park Ave, Yonkers NY
(914) 779-2966
ScubaNewYork.com
Info@ScubaNewYork.com

Westchester Dive Center

500 North Main St, Portchester NY
(914) 937-2685
WestchesterDiveCenter.com

Key Largo

No Bogie, No Hurricane—Just Great Diving!

By Gregg Macaulay

Last month I headed down to Key Largo with fellow club members and other friend for some diving. Our trip from New York was uneventful—if you don't count the side trip through Coral Gables. I *had* printed directions from MapQuest, and thought I knew the way. Oh well, it was a part of Miami I had not seen before! Eventually we arrived at our condos and started a great week.

We stayed at Ocean Point Resort in south Key Largo. The condos were nice and had a great view of the ocean. We had not been to Key Largo in over ten years and it was nice to see that things had not changed a whole lot.

Our diving had been arranged with Scuba-Do on a recommendation from a friend at another dive shop. It turned out to be a great choice. Captain Tony and Laurie run a very professional and customer-oriented operation.

On our first scheduled day of diving the winds were blowing between 25 and 35 miles per hour. The seas had kicked up pretty high. When we arrived at the boat the crew explained the forecast and left the choice of whether to call the dive to us. The four ladies and our two new divers made the right choice and waited until the next day, as the forecast was for the winds to drop. Laurie told me that Ocean Divers next door, with their larger boat, was planning to go out to the *Spiegel Grove*. Three of us said our goodbyes to the rest of our group and quickly signed up with Ocean Divers. We had plenty of room as there were only nine of us on board and this boat could easily handle 35 divers. The ride out was pretty wet and there was not a dry spot on the boat. The seas were eight to ten feet and the toughest part of the whole dive was on the surface getting from the stern of the boat to the mooring line. A tag line had been set up along which we pulled ourselves, but I think everyone drank a little saltwater. We had moored on ball five (of seven moorings) amidships, as we were the first boat on the wreck. Once down on the wreck it was

a great dive. The wreck of the *Spiegel Grove* is over 500 feet long and lies on her side. The profile allows for a dive from 60 to 130 feet. There can be strong currents, but both times we dived her this week the current was mild, which allowed for more exploration. The wreck has been down for a couple years now and marine life is starting to grow on her. In a couple years this will be a great photography dive. Our second dive was on the *Benwood*, which is a smaller wreck in 45 feet of water. There was a little surge on our dive, but with the loads of fish we still had a great dive.

The rest of the week we had better diving as the winds dropped and the Scuba-Do crew went out of their way to make sure we had a good time. There were many times that we pulled up to a site and aborted, moving on to another site due to low visibility or strong currents. Not all dive operations in the Keys will do this, as it takes time and gas to head to another site. This is also a major advantage of having the whole boat chartered for the week. We never felt rushed and our safety was their major concern. We saw this in their thorough dive briefings and the two head counts they performed prior to the roll call—there was no way they were ever going to leave a diver at a site. And we could stay down on a dive as long as our air or computer allowed.

We did a lot of dives on both

Molasses and French Reefs, with lots of swim-throughs and great opportunities for video and photography. We never made it out to the two Coast Guard cutters, the *Duane* and the *Bibb*, as the winds came up again that day; instead we decided on two reef dives. This turned out to be the right choice, as boats that had tried to dive these wrecks could not moor because the balls were 15 feet below the surface due to strong currents!

We tried a lot of different restaurants during the week and I would highly recommend Snappers. We ate lunch and dinner there twice as it was so good. Our day of rest before flying home was spent in Key West. We enjoyed lots of shopping, good food, and bars to check out—it was a nice way to end the week!

We will very likely go back in a couple years and Laurie from Scuba-Do may even join us on our La Paz trip in October.



Steve Dicosola mans TSSC's booth at Beneath The Sea

Beneath The Sea put on another hugely successful show last month, and TSSC was there! Club members generously donated their time to the club booth and to the show and made both a success.

Chris O'Roark of New York City won the raffle of a UK light set, donated by Bill Berger of Bottom Time Scuba, Rutland, Vermont. Our thanks to Bill and congratulations to Chris!

Photo from Greg Stasiuk

Start Your Season at Fort Wetherill

Saturday, May 22

On 22 May we'll kick off our local saltwater dive season at Fort Wetherill State Park in Jamestown, Rhode Island. A dive at Fort Wetherill is always a fun time and a great way to get re-acclimated to diving after a winter of land-based activities. Its location in Narragansett Bay provides the sights and beauty of ocean diving, with the protection of the two coves (West Cove and Sandy Beach Cove) that form the water portion of the park.

Since it will be late spring, water temperatures should be on the cool side (low- to mid-50s), so full thermal protective gear (gloves, hoods, etc.) is strongly recommended. As for marine life, we'll probably see a lot of flounders, skates, blackfish, crabs, and lobsters, and lush growths of algae on the rocky areas around the coves.

Besides diving, we'll also have an enjoyable picnic following the first dive. So bring along your favorite food and beverages and join us, even if you're not diving. [Editor's note: I discovered last year

that this is a great place for bicycling, as well as diving and kayaking!]

There are just a couple of ground rules:

- Fort Wetherill has a pack-it-in/pack-it-out policy. All things brought in, including food and charcoal, must be removed upon departure. This is done to prevent scavenger species (e.g. raccoons, rats, sea gulls) from becoming established and forcing out critters like egrets and sandpipers.
- Alcohol is not permitted on the premises.

We will meet at around 11 am that morning, and dive shortly thereafter. Fort Wetherill is approximately 3 hours from the Westchester-Connecticut line.

More information on Ft. Wetherill, including directions, can be found at BeneathTheSea.org/TSSC/diveInfo/fortwetherill.html. For more information about the dive, contact Rick D'Amico at usamarbiol@aol.com or (631) 751-4912 weeknights or (203) 335-0246 weekends.

Saint Lawrence Dive Weekend

July 10–11, 2004

The dates and operator for this summer's weekend club dive along the Saint Lawrence River have been set.

We will be diving July 10 and 11 with Thousand Island Pleasure Diving in Rockport, just across the Thousand Island Bridge. Two-tank, two-site dives will be \$60 Cdn, with a one-hour surface interval. All passengers will need to carry a passport or birth certificate and photo ID on the boat, as some of the dives will be in American waters and a stop at customs will be required.

More information should be available next month. To sign up or if you have questions, contact Gregg Macaulay at GMacaula@juno.com or (203) 746-4983. For information on the dive boats, wrecks visited, water temperatures, and more, visit IslandDiver.ca.

May Meeting

8:00 pm, Wed, May 12

Whitby Castle Restaurant
at the Rye Golf Club

Peter Venoutsos

on

Diving the Wrecks of Lake Ontario and the Upper Saint Lawrence River

TSSC is planning a weekend dive trip to the Saint Lawrence River in July. This is your chance to hear veteran Saint Lawrence diver Peter Venoutsos share his experiences diving that area. Peter will present underwater photographs of the some of the finest wrecks in the region.

Peter Venoutsos has been a certified scuba diver since 1976 and a certified commercial diver since 1983. He has worked for private underwater engineering firms, the federal government, and the US Navy. He is an active member of the Connecticut Underwater Archeology Committee. He has had articles published on underwater photography and teaches underwater photography to students. His interests include shipwreck and cave diving.

Directions to Whitby Castle at the Rye Golf Club 330 Boston Post Road, Rye NY (914) 777-2053

From I-287: Get off at exit 11. Stay in the right lane and at the end of the ramp turn right onto Route 1 south (Boston Post Road). Stay on Route 1 for approximately 2.7 miles, going through 8 sets of lights. The Rye Golf Club and Whitby Castle are on your left. Turn into the Golf Club driveway and Whitby Castle is straight ahead.

From I-95: Get off at exit 19, Rye/Playland. Immediately take the first exit to the right, signed Rye/Mamaroneck/Harrison. At the first stop sign go left toward Rye/Mamaroneck. At the next stop turn right on North Street, following signs for Mamaroneck and Route 1 south. After .3 mile you will merge onto Route 1. Follow it for .7 mile. Turn left into the entrance of the Rye Golf Club. Whitby Castle is straight ahead.

From the Hutchinson River Parkway: Take exit 23 onto Mamaroneck Avenue in the direction of Mamaroneck. Just after the slow-down lights (approx. 1 mile), go straight onto the on ramp for Route I-95. Stay left for I-95 North. Follow as above.



Anne Judge, Membership Director
 The Scuba Sports Club
 2 Pine Mountain Road
 DANBURY CT 06810

May Meeting

8:00 pm, Wed, May 12

Peter Venoutsos

on

Diving the Wrecks of Lake Ontario and the Upper Saint Lawrence River

at

Whitby Castle Restaurant

at the Rye Golf Club
 330 Boston Post Road
 Rye, NY

See page 7 for more details.

2004 Dive Schedule

Date	Day	Boat & Port	Dive Description	Class*	Cost	Contact
May 15-16		Dutch Springs, Bethlehem PA	DUI Dog Days		\$22	G. Macaulay
May 22	Sat	Fort Wetherill, Jamestown RI	Beach Dive and Barbecue	C/B/A	Free	R. D'Amico
May 29	Sat	Dike Point, New Milford CT	Picnic and Shore Dives	C/B/A	TBD	
May 30-Jun 6		Dominica†	Caribbean Diving			D. Reynolds
Jun 12	Sat	<i>Sea Hawk</i> , Freeport, LI	TBD	B/A	\$63	C. Sundahl
Jun 5 & 6		<i>Daybreaker</i> , Gloucester MA	Scallop and Wreck Dives	C/B/A	\$63	R. Bak
Jul 10	Sat	<i>Sea Hawk</i> , Freeport, LI	TBD	B/A	\$63	C. Sundahl
Jul 10 & 11		Kingston, Ontario/Clayton NY	Great Lakes Wreck Diving		\$18 ^{OCDN} **	G. Macaulay
Jul 24 & 25		<i>Daybreaker</i> , Gloucester MA	Scallop and Wreck Dives	C/B/A	\$63	R. Bak
Aug 7	Sat	<i>Sea Hawk</i> , Freeport, LI	TBD	B/A	\$63	C. Sundahl
Aug 7	Sat	<i>Atlantis</i> , New London CT	<i>Heroine</i> (75') & <i>Onondaga</i> (50')	B/A	TBD	C. Sundahl
Aug 14 & 15		<i>Giant Stride</i> , Rye NH	Seal Dives	C/B/A	TBD	R. Bak
Aug 21	Sat	Dutch Springs, Bethlehem PA	Treasure Hunt and Barbecue	C/B/A	\$22	
Sept 12	Sun	<i>Sea Hawk</i> , Freeport, LI	TBD	B/A	\$63	C. Sundahl
Sept 19	Sun	Beach Clean up	TBD (local)	C/B/A	Free	R. D'Amico
Sept 19	Sun	<i>Atlantis</i> , New London CT	<i>Heroine</i> (75') & <i>Onondaga</i> (50')	B/A	TBD	C. Sundahl
Sept 25	Sat	Fort Wetherill, Jamestown RI	Beach Dive and Barbecue	C/B/A	Free	R. D'Amico
Oct 2-9		La Paz, Mexico†	Baja California Diving			G. Macaulay

*TSSC's dive classification system may be found on page 2.

**Diving will be \$60 Cdn per two-tank dive. Lodging is additional. See page 7.

†This is not a club-sponsored trip. Use of this information is entirely at the risk of the user. TSSC assumes no responsibility for and gives no guarantees, undertakings or warranties concerning the organizers and/or providers of the trip. TSSC shall not be liable, directly or indirectly, from any damage resulting from the use of this information.