



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

August Meeting

8:00 pm, Wed, August 11

Glenn Butler

on the

Wreck of the Republic

at

Whitby Castle Restaurant

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

See pages 9 and 10 for more details.

2004 Dive Schedule

| Date | Day | Boat & Port | Dive Description | Class* | Cost | Contact |
|----------------|-----|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------|------|-------------|
| Jul 31 & Aug 1 | | Daybreaker, Gloucester MA | Scallop and Wreck Dives | C/B/A | \$63 | R. Bak |
| Aug 7 | Sat | Sea Hawk, Freeport, LI | TBD | B/A | \$63 | C. Sundahl |
| Aug 7 | Sat | Atlantis, New London CT | Heroine (75') & Onondaga (50') | B/A | TBD | C. Sundahl |
| Aug 14 & 15 | | Giant Stride, 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 | Sea Hawk, Freeport, LI | TBD | B/A | \$63 | C. Sundahl |
| Sept 18 | Sat | Beach Cleanup | TBD (local) | C/B/A | Free | R. D'Amico |
| Sept 19 | Sun | Atlantis, New London CT | Heroine (75') & Onondaga (50') | B/A | TBD | C. Sundahl |
| Oct 2 | 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.

†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.



The monthly newsletter of
 The Scuba Sports Club

August 2004

the anchor line



President Bob Bak

In the beginning of the year I was on a dive boat in Florida when I heard an all-too-familiar phrase: "I'm diving nitrox but I'm using the air tables to be extra safe." It made me cringe.

I was reminded of this phrase the week-end before last when I forgot to set my backup computer back to air after my first day of diving. About two minutes after entering the water I checked my computers. That is when I realized the error. By twenty minutes into the dive my computer was flashing a PO₂ of 1.7 and by thirty minutes I was dead.

Before my dive I had mentally prepared how I was going to dive the wreck. I knew what my planned and absolute maximum depths were going to be. I also followed a strict set of safety stops.

My point is that too many people will try nitrox on a boat that did not check to see whether they were enriched air certified, or will use nitrox that a friend lent to them. But the most common trouble is that people get enriched air certified but do not review their dive and remember what they were taught. This is a recipe for disaster. Nitrox is a tool that when used correctly by divers can maximize their dive time without increasing decompression risk. However, there is a strict set of rules that go along with using enriched air. Education is extremely important. But remember the basics: check your buddy, plan your dive and dive your plan. Make sure that you and your buddy know what you are doing before you enter the water. And when diving nitrox, know the rules and limitations. Diving should be fun but it should also be safe.

**Dive safe, Dive often
 Bob**

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- ◆ Member Adventures 6
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calendar

- ◆ Wyland Ocean Challenge Beach Cleanup August 7
 Contact Gregg Macaulay at (203) 746-4983 or gmacaula@juno.com for information or to sign up.
- ◆ TSSC August Meeting August 11
 See pages 9 and 10.
- ◆ Seal Diving Trip .. Aug 14-15
 Dive with the seals out of Rye, NH. Contact Bob Bak.
- ◆ TSSC Day at Dutch Springs August 21
- ◆ Delaware River Canoe Trip August 28
 Enjoy a summer day lazing down the river with stops to get wet! P. 11.
- ◆ TSSC Dinner and September Meeting September 8
 Enjoy a fantastic meal and hear about Don Reynolds' adventures in Dominica! See page 11.



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 or call Anne at (203) 778-3584.

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.



Canoe the Delaware River with TSSC

August 28, 2004

Last year 44 souls challenged the white waters of the Delaware River from Pond Eddy to Matamoras, a distance of 10 miles, and all had a terrific time. This year we will be canoeing another section of the river, from River Beach to Dingmans Ferry, a distance of 12 miles. This part of the river is quieter, with few rapids and slower current. It should take five hours, not counting stops. Because the river is slower, rafts are not available on this section, only canoes and kayaks. It is suitable for beginners and children. My favorite part is the stretch around Quick Island, where you can do a snorkel drift dive which is quite a thrill. I have found cash, jewelry and fishing tackle there. Three years ago we stopped there and people were having a blast riding the current repeatedly.

Canoe rental for the day is \$33 per person if you reserve in advance, more without a reservation. Everyone must make and pay for his or her own reservation; call Kittatinny Canoes at 1-800-FLOAT-KC. Please pay in advance so there is no

traffic jam at the cash register on the morning of the 28th.

The camping at River Beach is very nice. Why not take advantage of it? There is a big discount on two-day rentals!

To join us, you should cross the Tappan Zee Bridge at 7:30 AM. Take the NYS Thruway to Route 17 to Route 84 west. Get off at exit 53 (Matamoras, the first exit in Pennsylvania) and follow Route 209 south for three miles. River Beach is on your left.

You *must* bring footwear you can use in the water. Dive booties are fine. Open-toed sandals and bare feet are not appropriate. Bring a lunch and water. Beer is limited, and glass containers are strictly prohibited. Transportation back to your car will be included.

For more information, you can visit Kittatinny's web site at Kittatinny.com. A useful list of dos and don'ts is at Kittatinny.com/pages/safety.php.

Lada Simek

Dive into Dinner

6:00-7:30 PM, Wednesday, September 8
Whitby Castle Ballroom

To be followed at 8 PM by our September general meeting program:
Don Reynolds on his trip to Dominica

Dinner includes:
Buffet dinner
Soft drinks, coffee, tea and decaf
Dessert
Tax and gratuity
cash bar

\$30 per person postmarked by August 29
sent to Pat Forgacs
9 Fairway Drive, Danbury CT 06811
Reservations will be confirmed upon receipt
Late reservation or last-minute dinner arrivals:
\$35 at the door (if room available)

August Meeting

8:00 PM, Wed, Aug 11 — Whitby Castle Restaurant at the Rye Golf Club

Glenn Butler *on the Wreck of the Republic*

At our next meeting Glenn Butler will be making a multi-media presentation on the wreck of the *Republic* and the salvage and archeological exploratory work his salvage team performed on it.

In the summer of 1986, 37 men sailed from City Island, NY, aboard the salvage vessel *Windrill* to the last known location of the *RMS Republic*, which had sunk in 1909 following a collision with the *SS Florida*. Sixty miles south of the Nantucket lightship this team of explorers put four men in helium/oxygen saturation and spent 12 to 16 hours of bottom time per day diving the wreck. The crew also used submarines and robot vehicles to probe the wreck and document thousands of rare artifacts including a working Edison light bulb. The *Republic* was the first ship to use the Marconi radio in an emergency and the first ship to be electrified with Edison lights.

The ship carried some of the world's leading businessmen and their families, some of whom would later be killed on the *Titanic*. The entire 2nd class quarters were filled with provisions for the US Navy's "Great White Fleet," stopped in Genoa, Italy, to help survivors of the great earthquake. Rumors persist of a fortune in gold coins also carried on this ship.

Three people were killed in the initial collision; more than 1600 made it safely to shore. This "uneventful" disaster allowed J.P. Morgan, owner of the White Star line, to suppress the Navy's and Congress' attempts to require a lifeboat seat for each person permitted to arrive by ship into the US. Such a law would greatly reduce Morgan's income from steerage passengers who were kept in the holds of the ship, not even permitted on deck.

More information on this ship can be found at

RMS-Republic.com/index1.html.

Glenn Butler has been diving for over 40 years. He began teaching with Fran Gaar and Al Boehm at the Aqua-Lung School of NY in 1966. In 1971 he joined Bill Hamilton's diving research group at Union Carbide—Ocean Systems as an experimental diver working with neon and trimix rapid compressions to 1000 feet. Glenn worked the North Sea as a saturation diving supervisor and in 1980 developed the North American Hyperbaric Center in City Island to teach deep diving. Glenn's company, Life Support Technologies, provides consulting services to NASA and the military and operates hospital-based wound care and hyperbaric medicine centers.

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.

Book Review: *The Last Dive*

by Bernie Chowdhury

Reviewed by Don Reynolds

Bernie Chowdhury has written a book that is guaranteed to capture the soul of anyone who has ever strapped on a BC, mask, and fins and entered the water.

The author is the founder and publisher of *Immersed: the International Technical Diving Magazine*, led the first mixed gas sport diving expedition on the wreck of the *Andrea Doria* in 1991, produces documentary films, and spoke at a TSSC meeting in March 2001.

This suspenseful tale follows the tragic story of a father-and-son dive team as they are introduced to scuba and begin their quest to expand their knowledge of the sport, while also leaving their mark in the history books. To become world-class divers, to be recognized by their peers in the fields of cave or wreck diving, seemed to be a burning desire for this pair.

Chowdhury not only takes us on a voyage with Chris and Chrissy Rouse but also leads us to a point of self-examination, exploring what we do as divers and some of the reasons that lead us into the underwater environment. The story intricately weaves together the stories of the Rouse family and of Chowdhury's own near-fatal experience while wreck diving. At times I found myself gasping for air, recognizing the extremes to which these men were pushing themselves and the danger in which they were placing their lives; I could feel waves of panic pass through my body as it appeared there was no escape from the positions in which they had placed themselves.

It is important to realize that at the time these men were diving, in the early 1990s, "tech

diving," as we recognize it now, wasn't an option. If you were going to dive mixed gas for a deep or penetration dive you were going to mix your own. It wasn't until 1995 that PADI began offering courses in the use of oxygen-enriched air mixes, or nitrox, for recreational divers, which still limit divers to 130 feet. Other smaller organizations then began training divers in the use of trimix gases that contained helium for dives well below 130 feet.

The knowledge gained concerning DCS and its causes, treatments, and effects alone make the book worth reading. Names like Dr. Bill Hamilton and John Chatterton will put familiar faces to the pages as you find you can't put the book down.

Chowdhury has taken ordinary people and put them in extraordinary situations. Perhaps these people were ahead of their time but you will recognize them all as divers. Their love of the water, their desire for exploration, the competitiveness and camaraderie of this family of men and women, all of these we know.

When you finish the book you will know Bernie Chowdhury, Chris and Chrissy Rouse, and many of the other divers mentioned; all will seem like old friends. You will feel the electricity as they get ready to dive and then you will feel their pain. Take the time to review what you've learned from this story and then thank Chowdhury for writing this book.

The Last Dive by Bernie Chowdhury was published by HarperCollins Publishers (2000) and Perennial (2002).

Backplate and Wing Replaces the Traditional BCD

by Vadim Ternovski

Club member Vadim is studying technical diving technique with the Global Underwater Explorers (GUE). This is the first in a series of articles in which he shares what he is learning.

There are three major types of buoyancy compensators (BCs) available on the market today—the jacket-style BC, the back-inflation BC, and the backplate-and-wing BC (often written as BP/wing).

Divers typically choose a BC based on a recommendation from an instructor or a salesman at their local dive shop. Most people start with a jacket-style BC, then as they become better and more experienced divers may move to so-called technical back-inflation BCs. These are basically the same as a jacket-style BC, but the bladder is now in the form of a wing that is attached to the back of the diver rather than “hugging” him or her around the torso. Finally, some divers realize that back-inflation BCs are still not what they are looking for and opt for a BP/wing configuration.

If you belong to the growing group of divers who have chosen the BP/wing option, congratulations. You have made a wise choice in your gear configuration. You may read no further and skip to the next interesting article in this newsletter. If, however, you find yourself still using a back-inflation BC, or worse, a jacket-style BC, please read on and learn.

At this point I will say that I realize that it is every diver's choice what they want to dive, but I am now convinced that BP/wing BC configuration is the best choice regardless of experience,



whether the diver is a beginning open water student or diving doubles, whether the dive travel destination is in the warm-water Caribbean or the cold-water Northeast, and whether the diver is male or female.

I will start by explaining why I think the popular jacket-style BC is a horrible choice for your gear wardrobe. It will never be optimal in the water and is not as comfortable in the water as you were led to believe. The wraparound air bladder is bulky and cumbersome. It tends to squeeze you when you add air, and when extra lift is required will squeeze and prevent you from taking a full breath. It rides up while you're on the surface. It traps air. And it affects your trim in an undesirable way by almost always pushing you into a vertical position underwater.

To maintain a good horizontal position underwater, one needs a BC that aids in doing so. A traditional jacket-style BC does exactly the opposite. The air bladder should be above your center of mass to promote a steady horizontal position. In the case of a jacket-style BC, the air is not directly on top, but rather around, and even below your weight, making your position unstable underwater.

Since the traditional jacket style BC works against maintaining a prone position underwater,

Continued on next page



Picnic, continued from previous page

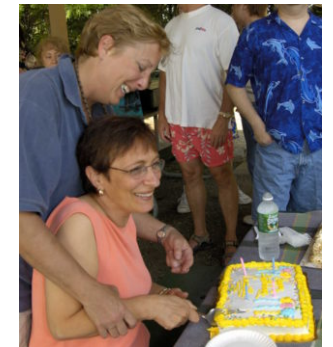
Paul Dengler, Pat DiBurno, and the Hausches never sat still, While Kim and Vicki, the Milazzos, Sy, Jodi and Lucille All talked about the incredibly good meal. Vreni, Pat, Alan, Ann, Kenny and guests Sat down after lunch for a good rest.

And just when we thought it was all said and done, Two birthday cakes appeared, not just one. It was Camille's special day, And we all cheered hip, hip, hooray.

The barbecues began to cool, friends started to pack, They all drove away, 'though promised to be back. But we heard all exclaim, as they drove out of sight, Happy TSSC Barbecue to all, and to all a good night!

Top: Most of the revelers gathered for this group shot late in the day, but some had already gotten away. Photo by Pete Riekstins.

Below: Camille's apparently not cutting her birthday cake fast enough for Gwyn! Photo by Bob Schragger



coming events

Dessert and Coffee at TSSC's August Meeting

Wed, Aug 11 — Whitby Castle Restaurant at the Rye Golf Club

We will be serving coffee and dessert after this month's meeting. One of our favorites, Glenn Butler, will be presenting the program this evening. Stay and enjoy talking to him over coffee afterward, and socialize with your fellow divers. This is a great opportunity to buddy up for TSSC

Day at Dutch Spring on August 21, or for any other dive you have planned.

Coffee will be provided, and some new desserts from Plaza Sweets will be available for around \$5 each. You can't beat this night!

'Twas the 17th of July

(Reported with an extreme degree of poetic license by Gwyn Grant)

'Twas July 17th, and all through the park
Every creature was stirring, including the larks;
The barbies were filled with Bob Schrager's charcoal with care,
In hopes that all TSSC club members would soon be there;

Harrington, Bak, and other children brought their beach toys
With visions of swimming among the sea buoys,
And mamma in her beach hat, and dad in his baseball cap,
Had just finally figured out where they were on their map.

The sun up on high, the shade nice and cool,
With burgers, ribs, chicken, steak on the grill,
All everyone could do was to drool.

The barbecues were manned by a dedicated team;
Don, Rick, Zeke and Bryan cooked like a dream,
When what to the wonder to everyone should appear,
But Tony Mazza's steamers and shrimp that all could share.

Sixty club members and their families shared a wondrous day
The beach was virtually a five minute walk away
The beach sand was white, sand castles were built.
Although there was no scuba,
Dan Levin's snorkeling report was complete:
Thermocline at two inches, and visibility two feet.

Intrepid souls braved the surf,
Some names listed below
Ann Marie M, Bob S, Pat and Dave,
Are some names we know,
Lada and Judy, Pete and Denise
And others that were brave.

While Ben Brush's dream of horseshoes did not appear;
And Gregg's dreams of volleyball went nowhere,
A vicious game of croquet appeared out of the air.
The players were fierce, competition severe
The play between Zsa, Nikky, Gwyn, Mitch, Anne,
and Michael was without compare.
But the champion of the day was Mitch,
who won the match with hoops to spare.

Photographers recorded each and every event without fear
Their visual recordings will be sought after for years.
Although Pete, Bob, and Jim are of note,
Howie's "ugly pictures" we will all want to promote.

Continued on next page



Gregg Macaulay prepares steamers, just a small part of the wonderful variety of food our members brought. Photo by Bob Schrager

A Special Thank You

I would like to send a special thank you out to Gwyn who organized the club's summer picnic at Tod's Point. Through her unselfish efforts The Scuba Sports Club had one of its most outstanding events of the year. It was a great event, which close to sixty people attended. I believe all had a great time. It is the efforts of Gwyn and other members in the club who give freely of their time and talents that make this club a success. If you had a good time at the picnic, tell her!

Pat Forgacs is organizing a dinner in September. This event I am sure will be a great success also.

Once again, thank you!

Bob Bak

BP/wing, continued from previous page

a diver tends to constantly adjust trim with fins and arms. This greatly reduces diver efficiency underwater, increasing air consumption. Inexperienced divers, already likely to be improperly weighted, while using jacket-style BCs tend to be in a vertical position most of the dive, stirring up silt and limiting visibility, or, even worse, damaging coral reefs with their fins.

Those divers who recognize the negative aspects of a jacket-style BC move to back-inflation style BCs, which have become a popular choice among divers in the "post-rental" stage. However, while these BCs solve a number of the problems described above, they are still a far cry from what the BP/wing setup has to offer. Many dive equipment manufacturers market their BCs with bells and whistles that are not only unnecessary, but also contribute to clutter of your rig. Multi-

ple ill-placed D-rings and pockets in all the wrong places do not contribute to a streamlined diver. Yet all these D-rings still provide no good place to clip off a light or an SPG. When the diver's front becomes cluttered, it creates lots of drag, danglies and snag hazards. Some divers see the need to clean up this mess and decide to eliminate the unnecessary mess of hose loops by getting rid of their octopus and replacing it with an alternate that's integrated with the BC's inflator. This solution to a problem that shouldn't have existed in the first place yields a really poorly performing non-solution; the most common equipment failure on a BC is a stuck inflator hose, and since it's now also your backup regulator, disconnecting the hose leaves you without your alternate air source.

Also, these types of BCs are inherently buoyant. A lot of dive equipment manufacturers insist on making their BCs equipped with abundant pad-

ding, which sounds like a good idea but is counter-productive underwater. A well-balanced rig is weightless underwater, making this padding unnecessary. The padding only creates additional drag and you will have to compensate for its natural buoyancy by adding more weight to your belt. And trapped air, a known issue with these BCs, will result in more unnecessary weight on your belt.

Now, what if you could start with a BC that is infinitely adjustable for any type of body, male or female, and any type of diving. Instead of a manufacturer deciding how this BC will fit you, that control is given to you. Instead of your tank strapped to the jacket, where it often rests on less-than-optimally-placed lead weights on the waist belt at the lower back, the tank is now attached to the backplate, which is closer to your back, increasing stability. This is the BP/wing arrangement. The backplate and its har-



ness becomes part of the diver. There is practically nothing in front of the you, which makes for a more streamlined outline. You will be able to kick and glide a greater distance with less effort since everything is now within your slip stream. You will be surprised by how your trim has been improved just by eliminating inherent BC buoyancy. The bottom line is better gas consumption and less carbon dioxide buildup.

In the next issue, we will look more closely at the BP/wing setup, as I go into details of its design and provide tips on how to configure it.



Join TSSC on August 28 when we try to recreate last year's incredibly successful canoe trip! See page 11.

Dive Dominica

by Don Reynolds

The excitement was building as we left San Juan airport bound for Melville Hall airport in Dominica. Karen and Leah had flown in from Miami, Matthew from Hartford, Connecticut, and my flight had left Kennedy around 7 AM. Now we had been huddled on board an American Airlines ATR with forty other divers headed for "Nature's jewel of the Caribbean."

An extremely low fog bank prevented our flight from landing as scheduled. After making a few attempts but not being able to see the landing strip between the mountains the pilot decided to set down in Guadeloupe to refuel. As we returned to Dominica, making one final pass before giving up and returning to Puerto Rico for the night, the cloud cover broke and we were able to take advantage of this window of opportunity to get on the ground.

After clearing customs and immigration we met our driver, loaded up the van with all our gear, and headed for Castle Comfort, our dive base for the week. The drive from Melville Hall on the north side of the island to Roseau on the west side takes about 1½ hours—pretty unbelievable



A permanent resident of Dominica checks out the tourists

Photo by Don Reynolds

as the island is only 29 miles long! However, once you start through the mountains, you begin to understand why the trip takes so long. This is no arid limestone rock like the ABCs. Narrow winding roads with twists, turns, and corners made us hold onto our seats! We were thankful to stop at a roadside stand to grab a few beers to settle our nerves before continuing the ride.

When we arrived at Castle Comfort Saturday afternoon it was like returning home even though we'd never been there before. Castle Comfort is a fifteen room guest house that is quiet, clean, and extremely well run. I had been corresponding with Ginette, the owner, by e-mail for the past few months and had met her son while he worked Dominica's booth at the Beneath the Sea show in March. The staff gave us a short briefing about the resort, the dive shop, meals, etc., and brought us to our rooms.

Sunday morning we met Billy Lawrence who was in charge of Dive Dominica, the dive shop located at Castle Comfort. Billy decided that it was his turn to leave the shop that morning and do some informal qualification dives with us. We left the dock around 9 AM and were at the dive site within 20 minutes. After we were briefed on the site, we splashed and met at the bottom of the mooring line. For the next hour we relaxed underwater, looking under crevices and behind corals and sponges for the critters that call this part of the world home.

The entire week was spent in this manner—dives with great bottom time and divemasters who knew the sites and where to find the elusive seahorses, batfish, frogfish, and the

Continued on next page

Dominica, continued from previous page

rest of a diverse population of underwater life. The dive crews would load divers' gear into the boat in the morning and then unload and rinse it when we returned to the dock. I'm old school (maybe just old); I'll take care of my own equipment, thank you very much. What really impressed me is that often after we returned from our morning dives, I would find the crew members studying advanced skill programs, such as rescue diver or divemaster. I've read that "good divers are always learning," and these divers were proof of that!

Castle Comfort offers an eight-day package with 7 nights' lodging, breakfast, five days of two-tank boat dives, unlimited shore diving from their dock, and airport transfers for \$699 a person (double occupancy) through October 31, 2004. Take advantage of this bargain and get away for a week of excellent diving. They can be contacted at dive@cwdom.dm or 1-888-414-7626. You can find more information at DiveDominica.com and CastleComfortDiveLodge.com. I will bring some of the resort's flyers to the club's next monthly meeting. I'm looking forward to returning to Dominica and further exploring what the island has to offer!

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

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

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