



The Official
 Newsletter of The
 Scuba Sports Club

March 2006

The Anchor Line

As you're reading this issue of Sea Swells the 30th Anniversary of **BENEATH THE SEA** is only a couple of weeks away. March 24-26 at the **Meadowlands Exhibition Center** is the place to be that weekend. Everyone has been going crazy (and will continue to do so) putting together the best show that has ever been presented to the diving public.

A few highlights of the show include: Special Guests **Hans & Lotte Hass** with presentations of their video at select times for public viewing on Sunday; **John Chatterton** and **Richie Kohler**, from the History Channel TV series *Deep Sea Detectives*, hosting the Saturday Night Film Festival; Friday evening's **Meet the Fish & Famous Silent Auction**; Tech Rock Friday Night; Awards Dinner; **Diver of the Year Awards**; **John Moyer's Andrea Doria Museum**; **Cayman Decompression Party**; approximately 300 exhibitors; workshops; seminars; **Ocean Pals**; the list just continues with more happening this year than ever before.

Club members still have time to sign up and give us a hand at the TSSC Booth or in other areas of the show where we are going to need additional help. Contact any of the club officers for more information.

Beneath The Sea has become an annual pilgrimage for many divers, exhibitors and those that love our sport. We get to see friends that we've developed from all over the world as we visit the different exhibitor's booths, attend seminars and in general just have a great weekend. I hope we see you there!

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The Scuba Sports Club
 P.O. Box 644
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Treasurer	Paul Dengler
Secretary	Gwyn Grant
Past President	Gregg McCauley

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FOUNDER	Armand Zigahn
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The Official Dive Club
 of Beneath the Sea

(ANCHOR LINE, CONT.)

On another line of thought there has been a lot of e-mail and discussion concerning dive insurance and whether or not coverage is always available. In the forefront of this topic has been the issue of chamber treatment and coverage if you carry DAN Insurance. Hopefully, everyone has been paying attention to the issues concerning DAN that have been brought to our attention. Without getting into great detail in this column DAN has advised members that though the three facilities located in Nassau, Cabo San Lucas or Cancun, presently, will not accept DAN insurance DAN will work to assure that DAN members are covered should the unlikely need arise for chamber treatment.

As further information there are other companies that offer diver insurance. TSSC is not committed to nor do we recommend any one particular carrier but this information is provided for the membership's information and review. Further information can be obtained by contacting the carrier's directly or going to their web sites. Two of the additional sites located were the PADI Diver Protection Program and Dive Safe. Simply go to www.diveinsurance.com for listings.

For those of us addicted to the History Channel and the whereabouts of our favorite Deep Sea Detectives John Chatterton & Richie Kohler here's the latest. The new season of Deep Sea Detectives starts on February 27 with the Pharaoh's Lost Treasure, March 6: Train Wreck in Lake Michigan, March 13: Mystery of the Channel Collision, March 20: Blackbeard's Mystery Ship, March 27: Great Lakes Ghost Ship. Please check your local History Channel site for accurate times of the show.

Don Reynolds
President

UPCOMING SPEAKERS FOR OUR MEETINGS

March 8th: **Narcisco Moreno**, from the Puerto Rican Tourism Company on scuba diving in Puerto Rico.

April 12th: **Robert Sterner**, Publisher of *Northeast Dive News*, about the magazine.

May 10th: Jason Heller on "Matching the needs of underwater photographers of all levels with the facilities of dive operators worldwide."

The Officers and Directors of THE SCUBA SPORTS CLUB would like to extend a special welcome to those reading this newsletter at BENEATH THE SEA.

Conservation Info: There is a new minimum size limit for American Lobsters. The new minimum size limit is 3 9/32". The new law primarily affects Lobster Conservation Management Area 6 (Long Island Sound). The new law does not impact the larger minimum size limits that are in effect for Lobster Conservation Management Areas 2, 3, and 4.

BOSTON SEA ROVERS

Boston Sea Rovers 52nd Annual Clinic & Film Festival March 4th and 5th

The Boston Sea Rovers is the country's oldest continuously running Annual Underwater Clinic. They are sponsoring their historic 52nd Clinic on March 4th & 5th, 2006 at the Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, St. James Avenue, Boston, Massachusetts. This year's event is sure to uphold their time-honored tradition to "Raise the Level of Knowledge of the Underwater World". Features of the Clinic include forty daytime seminars, covering every aspect of Scuba diving and the marine environment, including – check under daytime speakers and scroll down for details - **Vreni Roduner** from TSSC. They also present a dozen detailed workshops on advanced diving techniques, a world class evening film festival, and, with over sixty booths, the year's largest display of dive equipment and services in New England.

Tickets for the Clinic Saturday, which includes exhibit displays and the diverse programs offered, are \$25 per person, and the Evening Film Festival are also \$25. On Sunday, tickets for the exhibits and seminars are \$20, children under 12 are free, and admission for students with valid ID and Senior Citizens is only \$15. Group discounts are available. Daytime events run from 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM on Saturday, March 4th, and 9:30 AM - 4:00 PM on Sunday, March 5th. The exhibit hall opens 15 minutes earlier each day.

The spectacular Saturday Evening Film Festival, one of the most prestigious in the underwater world, is host to world premiers from some of the most recognized names in the business. Plan now to attend our 52nd Annual Film Festival, scheduled to run from 8:00 PM to 10:45 PM at the John Hancock Hall, just two short blocks from the hotel.

For information visit their website at <http://www.bostonsearovers.com> or call (617) 424-9899.

Mermaids to Aquawoman

To those of you who know me, I consider myself a mermaid. But one day a year, this mermaid becomes something more...Aquawoman! This mild-mannered director with the club, puts aside her calm demeanor, and becomes a member of a sisterhood that will leave most men in awe. And that is actually what happened.

Very early in the morning, on August 7, 2005, I rose from a few hours sleep. I showered and dressed, even though I don't remember that part of the day very well. It must have been around 4am. Zeke claims that I forgot to wish him a happy birthday, but it was early, and he must be mistaken. (I could not forget to do that). **Randi Eisen** and I set out for Freeport, L.I.. After a stop for coffee and tea, we were on our way to *Lockness* dive boat.

The sun wasn't even above the horizon when we unloaded our gear. There were soft voices as we didn't want to stir the neighbors. It was a perfect start to a fantastic mermaid day.

Aboard *Lockness*, women arranged gear, compared computers, gloves and rigs. There were hugs and laughter around as friends that may not have seen each other for a while gathered. We were on the way to the *San Diego* shipwreck. This was my fourth attempt to dive on her. I found out that I was not the only one disappointed by being blown out on this wreck. Another Aquawoman accomplished it on her 14th attempt that day. Now that is perseverance! I felt like a teen mermaid with all of the tech gear and experience I was surrounded with. We had **Jan-ice Raber** and **Randi Eisen** leading the group, as well as another newcomer to the dive, but not the sport, **Ronnie Gilligan**, of "*Empress of Ireland*" fame.

As we pulled out of the dock, we were met by the sun rising over the horizon. It would be a few hours till we reached the dive site. The time would be spent catching up with old friends, and making new one. Some of it would be spent napping, or grabbing a bite to eat at a more "civilized" hour.

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BENEATH THE SEA 2006

30th Anniversary Celebration of the Legends of the Sea

In celebration of BENEATH THE SEA's 30th Anniversary Undersea Exposition and Dive Travel Show at New Jersey's **Meadowlands Exposition Center** in Secaucus, New Jersey March 24th, 25th, and 26th, 2006, we shall take as our theme **LEGENDS OF THE SEA**.

If you are to tell **LEGENDS OF THE SEA**, it is best to begin at the beginning, and the people who began it all way back in the early 1930s are **Hans and Lotte Hass**, the first people in the sea. Now in their eighties, they continue in their spirit of adventure and will voyage from their home in Vienna, Austria to be at "Beneath The Sea" and help celebrate our 30th Anniversary.

Yes, this will be the weekend the stars come out at Beneath The Sea. Joining **Hans and Lotte Hass** will be a cadre of notables whose names are associated with the one wreck that touches us all, the Titanic. Also, it is fifty years since the *Stockholm* rammed the *Andrea Doria*, sinking her and making that grand old lady the second most exciting wreck off our shores. Creating a ranking of Legends in her own right, **Peter Hess, Evelyn Dudas, John Moyer, Pete Nawrocky, Steve Belinda**, many of who will come to the Tech Conference at Beneath The Sea and the Friday Night Tech Party. New discoveries create new legends, and **Richie Kohler** and **John Chatterdon** – *The Shadow Divers* - will be there as the MCs and celebrating their discovery of the U-869, and their pleasure at being Deep Sea Detectives.

Exclusive Free Matinee Special Showings of *The Man Who Discovered the Sea*, **Hans Hass and his lovely wife Lotte** will personally present this feature film about their life at Noon and again at 2:00 Pm, Sunday, March 26th at Beneath the Sea. These matinees will have limited seating, and will only be available on a first-come-first-served basis. As a privilege, and because we appreciate your commitment to Beneath the Sea ... Early Birders may make their reservation NOW.

Like the stars in the heavens, the stars that will come out Beneath The Sea 2006 are too numer-

ous to count. We think of all the names we have no room for, names of pioneers like **Phil Nyuton, Christian Lambertsen, and Bob Hollis** who are our legends today and will be tomorrow, for it is they and others like them who will demonstrate that we have only crossed the frontiers of our sport, and in the future of the oceans we will find our future as well.

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(MERMAID, CONT.)

A short time before we were moored off the *San Diego*, it became a different scene entirely. A lot of commotion, a lot of concentration and plans of where to go on the wreck

This would be my "virgin" dive, so I tried to listen to as much as I could. I had planned to dive with Randi, but with my limited "single" nitrox tank, with a backup pony bottle, I was an amateur in this crowd. I would start my dive with Randi, and leave Randi when my bottom time was up.

I was lucky in that I was able to take in the atmosphere of the wreck on this day. The "vis" was great for being down at 110 feet. I still could not see all the way to the far side, let alone either end of the ship. I heard about the "big guns" over the side, and down about 10 feet. That will be for another dive, on another day for me.

In between the first and second dives, I felt a bit of "mal de mer". I didn't make a second dive that day. After about 3 hours, I felt a bit better, and found out that Margarita's can calm a testy stomach. There were 3 blenders going for almost three hours after that. I think that Michelob sent some beer along for the dive, but the drink of choice was water, tequila and rum. It doesn't get better than that! Randi brought up a pair of "bugs". The group lunch had a bit of everything. The rest of the details will stay within the group. If you want more info, sign up for the dive in 2006. I hear that the going bribe to be a mate on the dive is up to \$100 each.

Do you have a bit of Aquawoman in you? I think you might!

Pat Forgacs

(BENEATH THE SEA, CONT.)

You may come to Beneath The Sea's 30th Anniversary March 24, 25, 26th, 2006 and spend the weekend counting the stars - or you may come because you are a scuba diver, and, to quote Neal Watson, "We have the coolest sport."

Discover for yourself what's going on Beneath the Sea at <http://BeneathTheSea.org>

**Zig
Armand Zigahn
Executive Director
Beneath The Sea, Inc.**

SOCIAL CALENDAR

March – Boston Sea Rovers Dinner Saturday, 3/4. BTS 3/24->3/26. Fish & Famous, Awards Banquet, Film Festival, Ocean Pals.

April - Open House- Saturday 4/8 or 4/22. Easter Egg Hunt @ Dutch Springs- TBA.

May – Children's Hospital Walkathon TBA. Memorial Weekend Bar-B-Q & dive 5/28.

June – White Water Rafting Trip- Saturday TBA. Lobster and Clam Bake-6/14

July – TSSC Picnic @ Todd's Point TBA (a repeat of a terrific party!)

August – Canoe trip on the Delaware River, Saturday TBA

September – Regatta/B-B-Q Saturday 9/2. Beach Cleanup 9/16. White Water Rafting. (Dates to be announced)

October – Pasta Night before the meeting 10/11. Bike trip Saturday 10/7

November – Harvest Brunch, Pete's Saloon Sunday 11/5.

December – Wine Tour 12/15 -> 12/17 Dec Social/Holiday Party Saturday 12/9.

SO LET'S DIVE!!!

**FORT WETHERILL
JAMESTOWN, RHODE ISLAND
SATURDAY, MAY 20th**

Okay, it's March. However, that doesn't mean that we shouldn't be thinking about this upcoming dive season. That first dive is all-important as we take the opportunity to get out the kinks from a winter layoff and check out our gear.

Come join us at the Northeast's premier dive site. Fort Wetherill is the one of the most popular dive sites for new divers and experienced divers alike. Fort Wetherill offers two protected coves which one or the other cove can be dove under almost any conditions. Both coves both consist of rocky shores and sandy basins.

The two coves known as the West Cove (which is actually the more easterly) and Grassy Beach Cove offer a variety of different sea life. West Cove has a more challenging entry, over a shallow rocky substrate, but becomes deeper faster and has good walls for photography. Grassy Beach Cove has a much easier entry along a boat ramp, and has a large shallow headwater area with lush beds of eelgrass, containing all kinds of marine life.

Come join Rick and the gang for a barbecue and some great diving. Ask anyone who's been there before about the marine life in the coves. Also, one can take in the sights of Jamestown and nearby Newport. More to come on the particulars of this dive next month.

REMINDER

Have you had your gear serviced and your tanks VIPed/Hydro-Tested yet? It'll be dive season before you know it.

Andrea Doria

Fifty years ago, on July 25, 1956, a dark and foggy night in the North Atlantic, the *Andrea Doria* and the *Stockholm* would collide. The *Stockholm* would limp to port, but the *Andrea Doria* would sink. Since that dark night, diving legends have been made on the *Andrea Doria*.

John Moyer, his artifacts and art salvaged from this fifty-year-old wreck, and the stories and

photography that accompany their recovery will be at this Thirtieth-Anniversary **Beneath the Sea 2006**. Experts attest that the *Andrea Doria* was a floating art gallery. Prominent amongst those works of art are the **Gambone Panels**. Rarely are these panels on display, but here at Beneath the Sea 2006 you may view these exquisite panels in all their glory, and hear the daring and clever story of their recovery from the man who recovered them. The *Stockholm* sailed to safety and anonymity, but scuba divers have been visiting the *Andrea Doria* display from the day of her sinking. Stop by the *Andrea Doria* display and see for yourself.

Our Next Meeting Will Be
On Wednesday, March 8th at

Tino's Italian Steak House
101 Saw Mill River Rd. (Rt 9A)
Hawthorne, NY