



[www.emeraldseadiveclub.org](http://www.emeraldseadiveclub.org)

August 2008

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## WANNABE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

For the next five months, this column will give you some information regarding presidential hopefuls. Every month different subjects are featured; this month is **Corporations/Regulations**. Candidates listed alphabetically.



### McCAIN

**Words:** McCain opposes “corporate welfare” and feels we should close corporate loopholes and veto pork barrel spending.

**Actions:** McCain voted FOR restricting rules on personal bankruptcy (2001), FOR reforming bankruptcy to include means testing and restrictions (2005), and AGAINST repealing the tax subsidy for companies that move jobs offshore (2005).



### OBAMA

**Words:** Obama believes that corporations should be responsible for work conditions and pensions and that there should be tax incentives for corporate responsibility. He feels we should close tax loopholes for companies that relocate abroad and end tax breaks for companies that outsource jobs.

**Actions:** Obama voted AGAINST reforming bankruptcy to include means testing and restrictions (2005) and FOR repealing the tax subsidy for companies that move jobs offshore (2005).



People going to Indonesia in October and November be sure to submit your absentee ballots BEFORE you leave!!!

## SUMMER PICNIC

### EMERALD SEA DIVE CLUB YEARLY PICNIC

by Skip Stacy

The Club's Annual Picnic is being held at Ft. Casey this year and at the same time, we will dive for a few more critters and fun dive. The currents should cooperate most of the afternoon and should be good for Keystone and Coupeville Tire Reef. This year's event is Saturday, August 23 and the current graph shows good diving from about 10 a.m. until late into the evening. With visibility the way it has been around here lately, this should be a real good time to be in the water. I could still use some Volunteers to help with things and I will need to get a rough head count. The Club will provide the burgers and brats (hot links), buns, condiments, eating utensils, cups, plates and napkins, beverages and ice. You are welcome to bring your favorite drink. (Alcohol is to be kept out of sight, as it is not allowed on Ft. Casey but act like a bag lady if you indulge and empties must be carried out. The affair is usually a potluck for side dishes and desserts so I can get a better shot as this part once I have a head count. This is a family affair so bring family and there is a lot of open field for games. Hope to see you there. Skip is looking for volunteers to help run and coordinate the annual picnic.

## CHRISTMAS PARTY

Annual Christmas/Holiday/Year End PARTY will be taking place in Snohomish at the Historic Waltz Building on the evening of December 6. I am currently looking for a few good souls to help with the party planning and raffle prizes. Anyone wishing to help, please, contact Jill, [jillk@bjbrewster.com](mailto:jillk@bjbrewster.com) or 425-356-9444.

## WINNERS OF JULY'S DOOR PRIZE DRAW

Congratulations to John Hind -- \$25 Starbucks gift card  
(John donated his Starbucks card to Loogpla)

Congratulations to Darlene -- \$50 CASH  
(Darlene donated her cash to her bank account)

## NANAIMO & HORNBY ISLAND

By Ann Miller

**Nanaimo, BC, Canada**

**Ocean Explorers Diving/Ian Hall**

[www.oceanexplorersdiving.com](http://www.oceanexplorersdiving.com)

**Friday, October 10<sup>th</sup>**

The price for 1 day of diving (two boat dives) is CAD\$140.00 + 5%GST = **CAD\$147.00** per person. This includes two boat dives, air fills, tanks & weights. Food and lodging are separate (the Buccaneer Inn is about 5 minutes away and costs approximately \$70.00 per night)

Advanced divers only as the dives are deeper than 60'. **The deposit is TBD.**

**Hornby Island, BC, Canada**

**Hornby Island Diving/Rob & Amanda Zielinski**

[www.hornbyislanddiving.com](http://www.hornbyislanddiving.com)

**Friday, October 10<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, October 12**

The price for 2 days/2 nights (arrive Friday, dive Saturday/Sunday, depart Sunday) is CAD\$370 per person + 5% GST = **CAD\$388.50**. This is the club price, FYI retail is CAD\$420 per person. This includes 2 nights accommodation (Friday & Saturday), 4 boat dives (2 Sat/2 Sun), all meals from dinner Friday through lunch Sunday, air fills, tanks & weights.

**The deposit is \$185 per person (first day's stay) and is due by May 28.**

If interested, please contact:

Ann Miller Home: 425-408-1617 Cell: 206-730-5640 Email: [ann12775@comcast.net](mailto:ann12775@comcast.net)

## **The Hideaway in Port Hardy**

By Bob Bailey

Cheng and I are heading to The Hideaway in Port Hardy the last week in August. There is still some open spots, and I am trying to help fill them.

Pickup in Port Hardy is Sunday, August 24, and we will be diving until about mid-day on Friday August 29. That leaves time on both ends in case someone wants to stop in Nanaimo or elsewhere along the road between there and Port Hardy.

Cost is \$990 per person plus tax (about \$1040 altogether).

If anyone is interested, contact me at [baileyjr@comcast.net](mailto:baileyjr@comcast.net)

**Porteau Cove, B. C.**  
**Camping and Diving weekend**  
**September 26, 27, 28, 2008**  
**By Cheng Wong**

I just contacted the BC Discover Camping and found that the campground reservation requirement is only up to September 15. After that date, it is on a first come first serve basis.

I contacted Skip Stacy, because he is a retired, free man, no work any day, and asked if he can do us a great favor by being at the campground by 8 a.m., September 26, 2008 to hold 2 large camp sites for our group and Skip promised to do it. Thanks to Skip.

If you would like to come camping and diving at Porteau Cove, please reply to [chengwong@comcast.net](mailto:chengwong@comcast.net) or [baileyrij@comcast.net](mailto:baileyrij@comcast.net) and bring your family if you like. It is a beautiful area for a weekend get away.

The plan for the weekend is this:

We need to know how many will be coming (so Skip knows how many sites to hold)

We need to have more people go up early to hold more campsites

We know we will have two lunches, two dinners, and two breakfasts

We need goodies and stories for two nights' campfires

We have to know if we want communal meals or do individually

If we do the communal meals then we need to decide as to who bring what for which meal plus bring cooking ware

**I know Bob and I like the communal meals and will do breakfast for both mornings**

**Of course, we all have to bring our own camping and diving gear**

**Bob and I would love to see you**

The entrance is at the end of the parking lot with a stair case of less than 30 steps then sandy bottom with big rocks here and there with boundary buoys from 60' at the south to 90-100' at the north where Nakaya is. There are many things in between at about 30' to 60', see the dive map. If you are up to it, you can do 4 dives a day; we did it before, we don't need to do it again. Now, a campfire night with goodies and stories will do just fine.

We do not need to go to Nakaya if we do not have a boat or kayak. At the previous camping someone brought a kayak and a boat and that was fun, being towed and riding on and doing back flips into the water.

The entrance is much easier from any of Bonaire's dives but you have to be careful with your knee, if you can take the challenge of that staircase . . . wish all dive sites had lifts that could haul BCD with weight and tank out and in from the water, that would be perfect.

We will see how other camper/divers will choose on the meals. Bob and I will provide and cook the breakfasts, no matter which way we go about meals, for we both love to eat , especially breakfast.

## Wrecks and Reefs of Porteau Cove

Here at Porteau Cove Provincial Park, a series of reefs and sunken shipwrecks have enhanced the growth of marine life and the opportunities for recreational diving. The artificial reef network has been constructed from chains of tires, hollow concrete piles, concrete blocks, and steel H-beams. Over 100 species including octopus, plumose anemones, lingcod, and several types of shrimp flourish in this important habitat. Three shipwrecks were sunk near the reef network in 1992. The Granthall (28m.) was a steel-hulled CPR tugboat built in Montreal in 1928. In 1967, the super structure was removed and the Granthall became a herring packer. The other wrecks are an 11m. steel dredge tender, the Centennial, and a 15m. Ferro cement sailboat hull. The yellow marker buoys and a dive float show the location of the shallower wrecks and reefs. Depths vary from 6m. to 18m. (20 ft. to 60ft.) PLEASE PROTECT YOUR MARINE RESOURCES BY LEAVING THEM AS YOU FIND THEM. HAVE

A SAFE AND ENJOYABLE DIVE



## 2008 Salt Creek Camp and Dive Weekend

By Pam Norton

Heading out early Thursday morning, Andy, Victoria, our two corgis and I met up with Skip, Adria, and Marylou aboard the 7:50 Edmonds ferry to Kingston. We were all very excited as it was looking like luck was with us and the weekend's weather prediction of warm and sunny was going to be a reality. Glad that the spell of bad weather was finally broken, we caravanned from Kingston to Port Angeles where we all met up with Jill and had a wonderful breakfast at the Crab House. With full, content bellies we headed to our final destination, Salt Creek County Park for our second annual camp and dive weekend.

Boy, what a great turn out this year! Campers and divers included Glenn Bulat, Sabine Fischer, Jill Keeler, Adria Ali, Marylou Hernandez, Eric Granroth and his family, Skip Stacy, Marty Leonard (who flew in from Ohio), Laura Orlich, Mark Soule, Wendy Drucker, Greg Becvar, Johanna Raupe, Norman and Clarice Gregory, John and Lori Gray, Steve Berthinier, Tina Seawell and finally, Andy, Victoria, and me. With this motley crew, we were bound to have lots of laughs and fodder for this year's Christmas party Santa gifts.

With most of us arriving Thursday, we all hoped to get a dive in before totally settling into our home for the next three nights. However, an offshore wind was really blowing in from the southeast creating large swells that crashed forcibly over the rocky shore making a safe

entry too dangerous to attempt. Instead, we all made up our camps and lugged our chairs to Jill, Adria, and Marylou's site and passed the afternoon away enjoy the warm sun, the spectacular ocean view, chit chat and sipping on some lavender tea and barley pop. Life's rough, eh?

Friday started sunny and cool, typical northwest summer morning weather and the strong chilly wind experienced the day before thankfully subsided. The 3 to 5 foot swells were reduced to 1 to 2 feet, so diving was perhaps doable. After a leisurely breakfast, we went down to the beach on a scoping mission to make an assessment of the entry points and discuss our options. Although the waves seemed much smaller than the day before, they still crashed against the rocks with intimidating force and maybe diving this day was not going to be doable after all. Greg and Johanna, who were less leisurely about breakfast and already had their gear staged and ready to go, made the decision to give it a go. Greg timed the swells and did kind of a side roll off a ledge directly in front of the end of the stairs and Johanna chose to enter through a small channel that was clear of rocks to trip over. They successfully hooked up and descended. Thank you Greg and Johanna for convincing the rest of us to get our reluctant butts in our gear and give it a try, too!



Finning up in swells was a lot harder than Johanna made it look, but we did it and started the swim out through the same thin channel. Timing the swells by furiously kicking through the receding seas and relaxing on the incoming swells, we made it through fairly easily and descending into a thick forest of kelp swinging back and forth like a trapeze artist building up speed to make a leap to waiting hands. At times, the surge was heavy and at times, it was lighter, but it was always present causing some of the divers to become a little nauseous and photography challenging. Heading out in an eastern direction through a channel Johanna told us about, Andy and I were able to drop below the dense kelp and searched the sandy seascape and walls for subjects to shoot. We saw many kelp greenling, large dahlia-like anemone, and a type of crab we had not seen before. Its carapace and legs had wavy

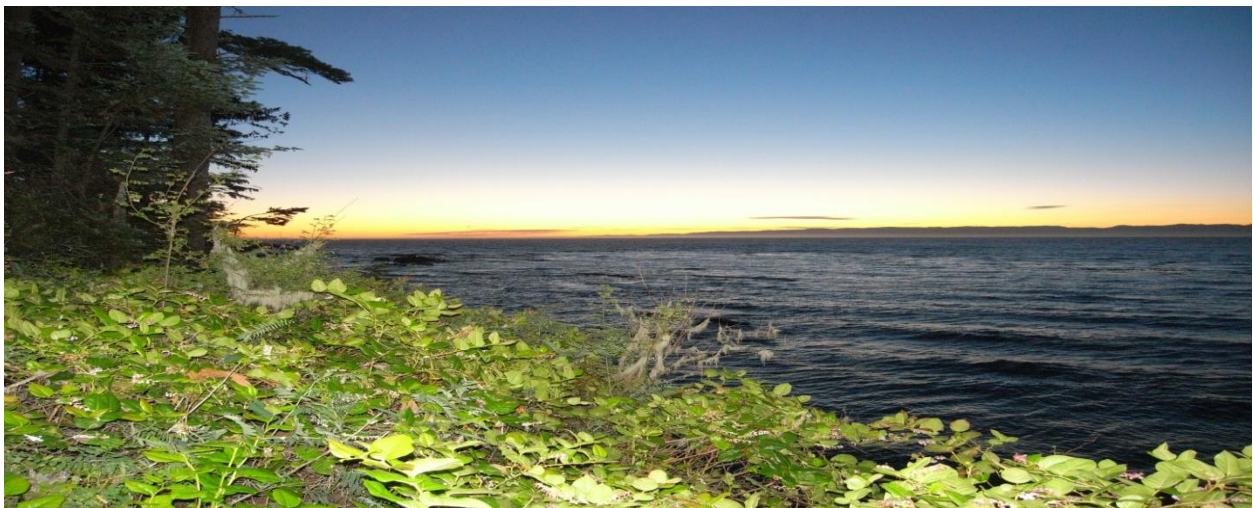
lines, its pinchers shaped like flat spoons or paddles, and it was very shy. But Andy was persistent and was able to take a pretty good picture and we were able to identify it as a scaled crab.



After about 50 minutes, it was time to reverse direction and return. Although the constant movement of the water made for a somewhat challenging dive, the scenery was pristine, full of colorful life and well worth the extra effort. Considering the surge and the always-challenging hike back up to the campsites, some of us decided that one working dive was enough for this day. But after a short interval, hardcore divers Greg, Johanna, Skip and Marty elected to make another dive. They are animals! Andy and Eric kept their dry suits on and decided to snorkel near the island in the

bay but the seascape was mostly made up of white sand, thin eelgrass beds and they spotted only a few small crabs.

Friday evening we all once again gathered at Jill, Adria, and Marylou's campsite and Glenn was put in charge of building and maintaining the campfire. We all sat around talking story, sharing jokes, and watched the beautiful sun go down painting streaks of brilliant reds and oranges across the horizon. What a wonderful end to a wonderful day.



Saturday morning again began much like the two days preceding it, sunny and warm. Needing air fills, a bunch of us decided to head west to Seiku and dive the jetty. Located adjacent to Olson's Marina, there are basically, two dive sites. Standing on the beach looking north to the right is the jetty and to the left is a boulder field. Because of the heavy boat traffic from the marina, we choose to dive the boulder field. All geared up, we heading down a conveniently placed ramp to the beach, waded in, began our short surface swim, and descended. Visibility was phenomenal, about 35 feet and the water very blue. The boulders were huge, some bigger than SUVs and they were covered in pink and purple bryozoans and large anemones looking like a summer flower garden in full bloom. Swarms of krill huddled together finding protection in numbers and fat happy rock fish lounged around eyeing us wearily. In the kelp, we noticed a small type of fish that was swaying in tandem gracefully with

Dive two at the boulder site was much like dive one, absolutely gorgeous. We planned diving further into the boulders but never made it very far as we were easily distracted and awed by the natural beauty and the abundance of creatures at this site. The highlight of this dive was finding a giant Pacific octopus tucked way back into a large but very thin crevice. We came across a dumpsite littered with debris of crab and moon snail shells strewn across smaller boulders in front of the GPO's home. Her thick legs and large round suckers made us think that this GPO was HUGE. I had a hard time angling the strobes to light up the dark spaces of the crevice but the picture of her large size and beauty will forever be in our minds. What a treat! We spent some more time swimming in and out of the kelp and had fun hovering in the middle of the large clouds of krill before it was time to start heading in. We were sad that we were not going to be able to make a third dive here, but there is always next year!

Saturday evening was our big potluck dinner. Steve and Tina's campsite was bigger and better equipped to handle the crowd so we all gathered our food contributions, beverages and lawn chairs and sat around a rip-roaring

the kelp in the light surge. It was about 2 inches long and had long flowing fins and silver spots along the length of its body. Luckily, the pictures we took turned out and we were able to identify this fish as a silver spotted sculpin. Another cool new critter find. After about 50 minutes, my hands were quite wet and cold due to a small pinhole in my dry gloves, so I signaled Andy with the underwater sign for cold and we headed in. But, we couldn't wait to make the next dive.



fire building up our appetites in anticipation of the feast to come. The main course was 20lbs of beef brisket that Andy had smoked for 14 hours, accompanied by Texas style BBQ red sauce and white bleu cheese sauce. Being a true Texan, Johanna gave the red sauce two thumbs up. We also had salads, coleslaw, corn bread, beans and delicious desserts. It was quite a feast. Like the two nights before, we settled in around the campfire and watched brilliant a sunset and compared the day's dive stories until it was pitch black out and time to drag our tired bodies to bed.



Sunday morning came around way too fast. Most of us decided to dive Crescent Lake for a high-pressure gear rinse and leisurely dive. The drive inland to the lake was beautiful. Green lower elevation trees gave way to tall lush pine trees and Fox Glove full of pink and purple blooms blanketed the open spaces of the hillside. We donned our gear and made our way to the lake's edge and began our descent into crystal clear blue water and 50 feet or better visibility. The large preserved trees with their crooked branches made interesting modern art pictures that gave Ansel Adams a run for his money. Large territorial crayfish lived in many different holes between the rocks, fresh water sculpin scurried about and shy trout watched us curiously always keeping a safe distance.



Marylou hung off a large branch simulating chin-ups and Skip at one point just sat there on the bottom and watched us swim around every which way like a pack of playful seals. It was great and everyone had a silly old good time.

Sadly, it was time for the good times to end. Surrounded by the natural beauty of the sea, mountains, great diving, and awesome friends makes one appreciate our good fortunes.



A heartfelt thanks to all that joined Andy and I and we honestly have not had a better time as we did on this trip. Let's do it again next year!

## THE SALUBRIOUS (suh-lōō-'-brē-uhs) NOOK CHILDREN AND DIVING

(This article was not edited from its original posting.)

The types of studies necessary to confirm/deny the medical concerns about kids, including the unborn, in diving will, most likely, never be done. This is because such research is costly, would involve decades of patient follow-up and is, for the most part, medically un-ethical. So, outside of a concentration camp environment, these studies simply will not happen. You see, while there are areas in society where, historically, women and children are considered prey, medical research has a long, established history of protecting children. Studies on kids must demonstrate a high-perceived benefit for a minimal risk. I know of no bio-ethics or human experimentation committee that would sanction studies to confirm/deny the concerns about multiple hyperbaric exposures in children.

I'll start with concerns about the psychological issues.

I find it fascinating that some who have been stricken with DCS show development of so-called negative personality traits (depression and dysfunctional behavior). For the most part, this has been anecdotal or confined to the commercial or deep diving realm. Although there have been some studies that have established the validity of the so-called punch drunk commercial diver, the depths typically involved are beyond the range of most recreational diving. Besides, changes in personality are often subjective and difficult to quantify, particularly in the absence of pre-DCS incident baseline for comparison. To my knowledge, there is only one study (yes, I know that one MUST BE cautious in not over interpreting a single study.) that suggests this type of dysfunction in recreational divers. Sutherland found, in a study specifically aimed at addressing the issue of personality change, that about 60 % of divers they treated in New Zealand for DCS continued to show personality impairment one year after hyperbaric treatment for DCS.

When I talk to neurologists or psychiatrists about this particular study (and other types of studies on diver's central nervous systems, especially those which use magnetic resonance imaging emerging on the broad topic categorized as CNS lesions), I basically hear two things:

1. Spots on a magnetic resonance image are difficult to quantify to distinct physiological or psychological characteristics. One needs to exercise extreme caution in interpreting magnetic resonance images.
2. Changes in personality, regardless of the nature of the injury, SUGGEST a definite change in brain structure.

If I ask these same neurologists or psychiatrists the question, "Is there enough solid data to restrict the training of children for scuba diving?" the answer I get is a consistent, "There is FOR MY KIDS!"

The reason is NOT BECAUSE ESTABLISHED MEDICAL HISTORY (which will, hopefully, never exist), but because:

- 1 The consequences (negative personality development) are considered severe
2. There is no known way of establishing how many dives, to what depth, for what duration, on what breathing mix, for what personality type, at what stage of development are necessary to cause this

post DCS personality shift, if such a shift results from hyperbaric exposure. A pharmacologist would say the dose-response curve is unknown.

**My Concern:** the effects, if any, of diving on personality development are unknown.

Moving on to something the child psychiatrists and pediatricians to whom I spoke consider a better-established reason for not allowing kids to dive. This is the concept called “Concrete Thinking,” which is typical of children until the age of 14-17 (as with all concepts involving people, there are no absolutes, just ranges because of biological variability).

My first job following graduate school was as a computer coordinator in the chemical industry. I acted as a liaison between chemical research, computer services and upper management. This was in the early 70s when scientific computing was primarily Fortran based mainframes. In my first presentation to management, I remember telling them that they should think of a computer as if it were a small child. As long as communication was extremely precise and limited to simple parameters, the computer would function extremely well. But the computer did not understand what it was doing. It simply operated by performing clearly defined instructions. As long as the computer was allowed to operate under rigid controls, it would function. But, asking the computer to operate beyond its programming was a prescription for disaster.

Anyone who has used a Windows Box personal computer has experienced what is called “The Blue Screen of Death.” This is the result of putting the computer into a state for which the computer has no set of operating instructions. A computer simply freezes and waits to be re-booted. A child cries and waits for mom or dad to solve the problem. Concrete thinkers are simply unable to function outside narrowly defined parameters. They have very little tolerance to conditions beyond their precisely defined instructions.

Concrete thinkers cannot process information or scenarios beyond what they have experienced. They are not able to form a hypothesis and systematically use logic to solve a problem. The ability to do this is called abstract thinking and does not become a useful intellectual tool until mid or late teens. Often a child will recite facts without a clue as to the meaning of the quoted words. (Adults often confuse their child’s ability to recite with ability to understand.) For example:

A child can easily memorize Boyle’s Law and recite with the dramatic clarity of Robert DeNiro in Men of Honor. This child, exposed to modern scuba education (understanding of physics and physiology removed because these things are unnecessary), will attempt a Valsalva whenever pain is felt in the ears.

So, the concrete thinker goes underwater (able to recite Boyle’s Law at any given moment) and enjoys a great dive in Planet Ocean. However, as the concrete thinker surfaces, pain is felt in the ear. The concrete thinker will associate pain in the ears with pinch and blow. This concrete thinking diver will continue to make matters worse by repeatedly inflating the middle ear with an attempt to clear. The concrete thinker is simply unable to process information and seek a solution when defined parameters are exceeded.

On the other hand, someone who understands Boyle’s Law and is able to process information will solve the problem in this manner: As I ascend, the gas in the middle ear is expanding. If I feel pain in my ears, it is likely to be because of this increased pressure from the attempting-to-expand gas.

Therefore, blowing (increasing middle ear pressure) will only make matters worse. I must reduce the pressure in my middle ear spaces, so I will pinch my nose and GENTLY SUCK.

The concrete thinker makes the problem worse; the abstract thinker solves the problem!

We participate in a sport where it is impossible to define all the possible scenarios and establish a set of rules for a concrete thinker to function when stressed. For example, I have never heard the Florida tourist people brag about wind chill factors of -20 °F with ice and snow closing their highways. Nor have I heard anyone sing about the icy banks of the Suwannee River. But it happened. I was there and the day was as dark and gloomy as my photo suggests. The good news was that our scuba tanks were filled in an outdoor bath and equilibrated for about an hour. We had to skim the ice from the surface of the water to retrieve our tanks. So, when we went into the water, our SPG's showed a significant pressure increase. It is the only time in my life where the pressure in the tanks increased when I entered the water. I won't tell you how much, because if I did, Bill High would hurt me!

Because the air was so frigid, we opted to change into our wet suits in the motel. On our way to the Little River cave site, we stopped and had breakfast. I gather, from the looks we received, that 5 guys wearing rubber emerging out of the snow was not a typical Florida morning. After a great breakfast, as we left, I heard one of the waitresses say, "Madge, them boys ain't too bright!"

The point of this little story is that Mother Nature Rules our sport and sometimes situations occur which call for non-typical behaviors. These solutions are often site specific! It is NOT possible for us to conceive all possible scenarios and concretely define responses.

Sometimes the difference between tragedy and an awesome day of diving is the ability to function beyond the concrete because crisis requires flexibility something that simply does not exist in the concrete thinking little kid!

If you would like to read this article in its entirety follow this link: <http://www-personal.umich.edu/~lpt/kids.htm> - Psychological Taylor, Larry "Harris", Ph.D. (2001).

(Editor's note: Always consult your own physician regarding health and diving.)

## **EDMONDS FISHING PIER CLEAN-UP**

by Fran Murray

The days will be getting shorter and fall will be coming. It must be time for our second ESDC Fishing Pier clean-ups in 2008. September 13, which is Saturday, we will gather on the lawn in front of the Edmonds U/W Sports store for a dive briefing at 9:00 am (there is another around noon for those who only want to do the afternoon dive). This is mandatory in order for you to do this dive because it involves high levels of hazards. I would suggest that your diving skill and experience is more than a novice diver. You can always help on the dock which can be just as much fun (well, almost). We pair up veteran pier divers with those who have not had the pier experience. Do not be disappointed if you are not buddied up with the person you came with, maybe you will meet a new dive buddy. U/W Sports, in the past, has generously given us a free fill after the first dive. We just have to tell them we are doing the pier clean up and be polite to the store personnel. After the dive, we conduct a sale of all

the stuff we bring up to the dock. What a hoot that is, particularly if the weather is nice and there are lots of fisher people.

Here are a few things to think about:

- ✚ **WAIVERS ARE REQUIRED**
  - call or see me at the July, August or September meeting
- ✚ Streamline your equipment to cut down on the chance of entanglement
- ✚ Only two to a buddy team
- ✚ Scissors or knife are good to have – topside as well
- ✚ This is a working dive and you **WILL** use more air
- ✚ AND anything else you can think of to make this a safe dive
- ✚ We have not lost a diver yet.

FYI: some of the fun stuff we have found in the past: several guns(do not bring them up) hot pink nail polish, a ladies bowling ball, a ladder, dollar bills, little girl shoes but no little boy shoes, sun glasses, pagers, cell phones, candle sticks, a presentation sword, hats, knives, a bag of checks in a pillowcase with three rocks, and of course lots of fishing gear. For more information or to sign up, please contact Fran, [206 542 1866](tel:2065421866).



**Just Released! The 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition of Coastal Fish Identification** by Paul Humann and Ned DeLoach. Greatly expanded and improved, the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition includes more than 30 new species and 70 new photographs (including several from Janna Nichols!). REEF just received a shipment of the new books, hot off the press. It is available through our online store: <http://www.reef.org/node/450>

## TANK GAWD IT BE FRIDAY DIVES

Hey everyone, don't you just love Fridays? Unless you are Skip, for most of us it signals the end of yet another workweek and hopefully the beginning of a relaxing weekend. How about starting the weekend off right? Each month, Pam and I will be hosting an event we are calling the "TGIF" Dive. On a chosen Friday night, we will meet up at one of our favorite local dive sites at 6:00 p. m. for an after work splash. And with this club, dinner usually follows!

Meet up at 6:00 p. m. and splash when ready. Care to join us? If you cannot make it one month join us the next one? Be sure to check the ESDC club calendar for all of our monthly TGIF dive dates: <http://www.emeraldseadiveclub.org/EventsCalendar.aspx>. We hope to see you there! Oh, and these are of course night dives. Please remember to bring your primary, secondary and tank lights. Celebrate TGIF dives with Andy & Pam Norton on the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of each month. It is a great way to unwind and rid your soul of the stresses of a hectic month. See calendar, pages 19-20 for further details. Dive in!

### **TGIF Dive #7 Review**

**Edmonds Oil Dock**, July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2008

By Andy Norton

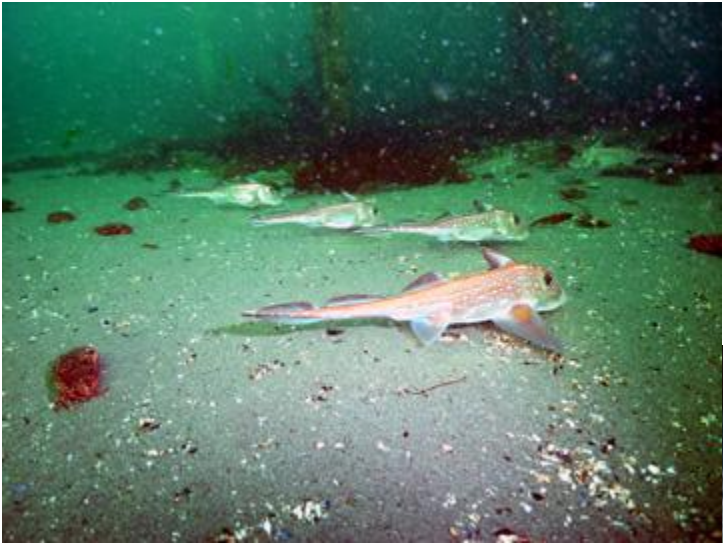
Can you believe it?? Two months in a row with spectacular weather for our monthly TGI(AB)F dive! The weather gods apparently remain greatly confused at our TGI "Anything But" F dive plan. Friday evening reminded us once again why we are so willing to tolerate the cold and rain the rest of the year.

Another beautiful view of the Sound bathed in the late afternoon sunshine, several people out enjoying picnics and walks along the beach... And there was the Emerald Sea Dive Club, proudly represented by fellow divers Jill Keeler, Peggy McCright, Skip Stacy & Laura Orlich, and also joined by fellow diners Jack Titterness, Mark Soule and Adria Ali. After chitchatting and getting caught up with everyone since the Salt Creek weekend, Pam and I buddied up and entered the water at about 7:00. The surface was reasonably calm, that is, until about the time we went to put fins on and swim out. A huge container ship had passed by a short time before and its waves had finally made it to shore. I think we could have surfed on those! They seemed to come out of nowhere but while it was a bit of a surprise, it was not any big deal. As we swam out, we began to notice a bit of a surface current pulling us north so we decided to descend about half way out. We were delighted as the visibility was probably around 30 ft or so and I could easily make out two sets of pilings in either direction from us. A great start to the dive!

We began heading west beneath the pilings, enjoying all the critters on our way out. I have never seen so many juvenile red rock crabs! They were absolutely everywhere. The juvies have just as much attitude as the adults from what I saw, making for one very intimidating army if not for their cute little size. Not to be outdone by the red rock crab army, the rattfish were having quite a gathering of their own. I have encountered rattfish on numerous occasions in the shadows at the end of the dock. In fact, they are one of the main attractions of the Oil Dock for me. However, I have never seen so many of them out in the

open shallows before. Most were quite friendly and curious, although their shiny skins were making good photos difficult to obtain. The rattfish looked like the tanks alongside the rock crab infantry. As we continued on, we began to notice how much the current was increasing. We had planned and timed this dive by the book as far as currents and tides go but this is one site that does not always play by the rules. The shallow depths along Edmonds seem to put a wrinkle in current prediction, and it was definitely noticeable on this dive. The kelp began to bow down before the might of the rock crab and rattfish armies, and debris began whizzing by us as we fought to continue out. The current was strong, but not terribly

disconcerting. The rock crabs were pretty funny as they attempted to climb the pilings to get at some of the better food supplies. They wavered and eventually succumbed to the current, dropping off the pilings like some hopping mad paratroopers wiggling their legs as they dropped in the water column back to "ground". It was raining rock crabs! Pam used her knife to dig in and



hold firm while I would snap a photo or two. Eventually, we decided it was probably best to turn the dive rather than fight to get to the end of the dock having gone through more air than planned.

Our return was very enjoyable in that the conditions made for a nice little drift dive. We found that swimming perpendicular to the pilings while kicking slightly into the northerly current gave us a nice push towards shore that we could comfortably ride. Casually surveying the pilings and surroundings on the way back in, we got even more time with the undersea armies and shot some fun pictures.

At one point, we spotted a false ochre sea star that somehow managed to get a hold of one of those red rock crabs as dinner. I am still wondering how it managed that. We also came across a first for us. At least, the first time we actually paid attention to it and knew enough to refer back to our Pacific NW Marine ID training as well as look it up in the Hanby and Lamb big book of critters. It was a pair of helmet crabs locked in mating position. After 47 minutes of bottom time, it was reluctantly finally time to call an end to our July TGIF dive.



Afterwards in what has become custom for

this club, it was chow time! The entire gang ventured over to Las Brisas Mexican Restaurant, located in the small business park around the corner on Dayton. This place is one of our favorite post-dive destinations after the Oil Dock or the Underwater Park. It has great food and beer, friendly service and a cozy fireplace to warm you up on the chillier days. As always, the ceviche tostadas were excellent! Well, Pam did not think so, but she does have a hard time eating anything similar to what she just saw on the dive. ☺ Another month of great weather, great diving, great food and awesome friends! So what are you doing next month?? Our next TGIF dive will be at Bruce Higgins Underwater Trails (Edmonds Underwater Park) on Friday, August 15. Meet at 6 p.m. and splash when ready. We hope to see you there!!



## HMCS Annapolis Artificial Reef Project Volunteer Information

(not edited)

The ARSBC needs volunteers to help with clean up and preparation onboard the ship. Volunteer workdays will be on Saturday and Sundays weekly. Due to the logistics of having the ship anchored off shore, access to the vessel will be by boat supplied at the pick up location in Horseshoe Bay. This is not a risk free work environment; therefore, you are required to sign a liability waiver. This only needs to be done once (before the first time you volunteer for this project) and it can be submitted anytime. If you don't, we unfortunately can't let you work!

**Please ensure a signed copy of the attached waiver is emailed to [kwoods@artificialreef.bc.ca](mailto:kwoods@artificialreef.bc.ca), or faxed to 604-733-1207 at least 24 hours before your volunteer shift!**

### Primary Rules:

1. all persons must agree to be on time for transport.
2. all persons will be assigned in teams.
3. all tasks will be assigned by the ARSBC.
4. all persons understand this is a full day aboard the ship.
5. all persons need to bring food and especially lots of drink.
6. all persons must sign a liability waiver (you only need to do this once).
7. no one is permitted to write on any part of the ship
8. no one is permitted to take souvenirs
9. no one is permitted to smoke anywhere inside the ship
10. no one may enter the engine, boiler, or steering room.
11. no one is to use the ship toilets or touch the seals
12. no one may climb to the top of the ship.

13. no one may work beyond the assigned area unless directed.
14. no one may wander or explore the ship - a tour will be provided.
15. no one may enter areas sectioned off.
16. For safety reasons, earphones for portable music (e.g., iPod) may not be used; however, a portable radio is permitted.

A full tutorial will be provided for the tasks to be performed on board the Annapolis.

**Time and Place:**

The ARSBC will have a central volunteer coordinator who will phone in advance to secure work teams for both Saturday and Sunday, advise you of your meeting time and arrange to maximize car-pooling. You are asked to meet promptly at your scheduled time and you will be advised of where we meet. Travel time to the ship is approx 30 min. Weekend operations will wind down at 4:30 with a 5:00 departure return. Please ensure you check for all your belongings coming to and going from the ship.

**Nature of work:**

Volunteers will not be working with any hazardous materials. Much of the work is dismantling equipment, lifting and staging ship parts. Some work will require the use of ladders. There is a great deal of fibre glass removal and bagging required. Removal of doors, mirrors, walls, furniture, wire racking, cleaning and sweeping. It is expected that the work will take all summer into the fall.

**Mandatory Equipment Needed:**

Due to the nature of the volunteer work, you need to be aware of the absolute minimum requirements. Persons failing to comply with any rules will not be permitted aboard the Annapolis.

**PLEASE DOUBLE-CHECK THE LIST.**

**Clothing:**

Please ensure you have a set of "working clothes" along with you and anticipate that they will get dirty and/or stained - i.e. have clean clothes to change into at the end of the day.

- work overalls or jeans, no shorts
- be prepared for all weather
- safety (steel-toed) work shoes/boots
- a good handheld flashlight or head gear light (bring extra batteries)
- protective eye wear
- workman's gloves

**Tools:**

Some basic tools will be provided however you need to come equipped with your own set for use. The heavier duty the tools the better.

- tool bag or box
- vice grips (2), plumber wrench
- spanner wrench set
- ratchet set
- hammer
- screw driver set
- retractable knife and extra blades
- knee pads are a worth bringing but optional

**Safety:**

The ARSBC will provide this additional safety gear.

- first aid kit

- eye wash
- hand cleaner and dust masks
- water for washing
- disposable suits for fibre glass removal
- hardhats
- life jackets
- portable washroom facility with be on board

If you are interested in helping create B.C.'s next artificial reef, please contact us at: [kwoods@artificialreef.bc.ca](mailto:kwoods@artificialreef.bc.ca), or visit our website at [www.artificialreef.bc.ca](http://www.artificialreef.bc.ca).

## BOARD MEMBERS

<b>President</b>	Jill Keeler	<a href="mailto:jillk@bjbrewster.com">jillk@bjbrewster.com</a>
<b>Vice-President</b>	Rich Carton	<a href="mailto:crich4scuba@verizon.net">crich4scuba@verizon.net</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Adria Ali	<a href="mailto:adriaali@yahoo.com">adriaali@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Laura Orlich	<a href="mailto:lorlich@ssoe.com">lorlich@ssoe.com</a>
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Darlene Ripley	<a href="mailto:esdcnewsletter@mindspring.com">esdcnewsletter@mindspring.com</a>
<b>Activities Coordinator</b>	Shawn Miller	<a href="mailto:shawnm1833@yahoo.com">shawnm1833@yahoo.com</a>

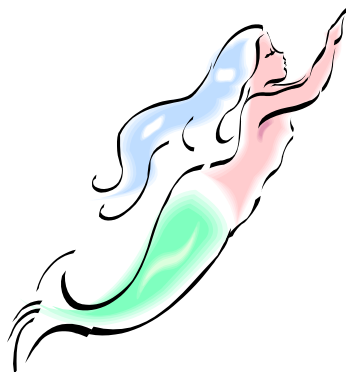
## BOARD APPOINTEES

<b>Greeter</b>	Pam Norton	<a href="mailto:pnorton@rwbeck.com">pnorton@rwbeck.com</a>
<b>Web Masters</b>	Andy Norton and Glenn Bulat	<a href="mailto:andy_norton@comcast.net">andy_norton@comcast.net</a> <a href="mailto:glennbu@softbyte-solutions.com">glennbu@softbyte-solutions.com</a>
<b>Big Buddy Coordinators</b>	Wendy Drucker	<a href="mailto:wcdrucker@clearwire.net">wcdrucker@clearwire.net</a>

## WHOOZY WHATZ ITZ

If you have ever needed information or wondered who to speak with about anything in particular here is your list of to whom to ask what. Your FAQ station. If YOU have anything you would like to have posted in the FAQ section, please submit to [esdcnewsletter@mindspring.com](mailto:esdcnewsletter@mindspring.com). Thank you.

Whom do I contact regarding not receiving a monthly newsletter?	Darlene <a href="mailto:esdcnewsletter@mindspring.com">esdcnewsletter@mindspring.com</a>
Whom do I contact regarding rules of the Calendar Photo Contest?	David <a href="mailto:esdcnewsletter@mindspring.com">esdcnewsletter@mindspring.com</a>
Whom do I contact regarding a guest speaker?	Rich <a href="mailto:crich4scuba@verizon.net">crich4scuba@verizon.net</a>
Whom do I contact regarding the One List?	Andy <a href="mailto:andy_norton@comcast.net">andy_norton@comcast.net</a>
Whom do I contact regarding upcoming dives?	Shawn <a href="mailto:shawnm1833@yahoo.com">shawnm1833@yahoo.com</a>
Whom do I contact regarding joining ESDC?	Laura <a href="mailto:lorlich@ssoe.com">lorlich@ssoe.com</a>
Whom do I contact regarding my mailed-in application that Laura never received?	Skip <a href="mailto:skipstacy@comcast.net">skipstacy@comcast.net</a>
Whom do I contact regarding questions, comments, or concerns about the website?	Andy <a href="mailto:andy_norton@comcast.net">andy_norton@comcast.net</a> Glenn <a href="mailto:glennbu@gmail.com">glennbu@gmail.com</a>
Whom do I contact if I have a technical questions or a problem with using the website?	Glenn <a href="mailto:glennbu@gmail.com">glennbu@gmail.com</a>
Whom do I contact regarding a problem with the dive calendar on the website?	Shawn first <a href="mailto:shawnm1833@yahoo.com">shawnm1833@yahoo.com</a> Andy second <a href="mailto:andy_norton@comcast.net">andy_norton@comcast.net</a>
To whom do I send my photos for the contest?	Glenn <a href="mailto:glennbu@gmail.com">glennbu@gmail.com</a>
Whom do I contact if I have an idea for the website?	Glenn <a href="mailto:glennbu@gmail.com">glennbu@gmail.com</a>
To whom do I make a complaint about the club or its members? Also accepts questions, comments, and concerns.	Jill <a href="mailto:jillk@bjbrewster.com">jillk@bjbrewster.com</a>
Whom do I contact regarding the Big Buddy program?	Wendy <a href="mailto:wcdrucker@clearwire.com">wcdrucker@clearwire.com</a>
Whom do I contact if I need a dive buddy and I am new to the area?	Wendy <a href="mailto:wcdrucker@clearwire.com">wcdrucker@clearwire.com</a> Skip <a href="mailto:skipstacy@comcast.net">skipstacy@comcast.net</a> Greg <a href="mailto:tridoxia@yahoo.com">tridoxia@yahoo.com</a>
Whom do I contact if I would like to become a board member?	Contact any board member listed in this newsletter
Whom do I contact if I would like to plan dives? A dive? Help with hosting dives?	Wendy <a href="mailto:wcdrucker@clearwire.com">wcdrucker@clearwire.com</a>
Whom do I contact if I would like to become a Diver on the Loose?	Darlene <a href="mailto:esccnewsletter@mindspring.com">esccnewsletter@mindspring.com</a>



## OTHER STUFF

### Membership Dues

**\$30 for a single membership \$47 for a family membership**

### Winning \$50.00

You could win a **\$50.00** ESDC check up to four times a year, depending on your luck. There are several ways of winning:

- 1) by hosting club dives
- 2) by submitting stories, articles, or information to the newsletter
- 3) by signing up a new member

Every time you sponsor a club dive, submit to the newsletter, or sign up a new member your name "goes into a hat" and four times a year a raffle is held and one person from each drawing will receive **\$50.00** from ESDC as a **Thank You** for sponsoring dives, friendships, and fun! Remember, a club dive is a dive approved by Shawn Miller, Activities Coordinator, and placed on the clipboard and on the ESDC web site. This is a great way to meet club members and have lots of fun. Remember: the more dives you book, the more submission to the newsletter you make, and the more new members you sign up the more chances you have of winning.

### Continuing Education Reward

When you take a class that furthers your diving experience, such as Advanced Open Water, Rescue, Dive Master, etc., show The Board your certification card and you will receive a congratulatory \$15.00. This offer is only good one time per calendar year.

### ESDC Mailing List

If you would like to join the One List go to [www.groups.yahoo.com/group/ESDClist](http://www.groups.yahoo.com/group/ESDClist) then click on "Join This Group". The One List is where you can communicate with other members regarding various dive topics, find dive buddies, or let everyone know about a planned dive that did not make it to the newsletter or clipboard in time. **Join the list so YOU won't be left out!** If you have trouble with this process then contact Andy [andy\\_norton@comcast.net](mailto:andy_norton@comcast.net).

## HELPFUL HINTS FOR THE ESDC YAHOO GROUPS "ONE LIST"

by Andy Norton

The Yahoo Group's "ESDC list" site, more commonly referred to as "The One List" (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ESDClist/>) is a fully functional website. You can search and view the entire history of posts made to the list, share files such as dive site reviews, maps, general articles, photos and more.

**Why join the One List?** Exclusively maintained as an ESDC member benefit, the list is available only to paid members. It is a great way to find or tell dive buddies about dives that haven't been officially posted to the club calendar, announced at a meeting or in the newsletter. To inquire about dive conditions, find help for planning dives, post reviews of dives, dive charters or services, chat about current events in the diving community, list equipment for sale, or post any other activities or subjects that you think might be of interest to club members. You can post as often as you like!

**How do I join?** There are two ways to join the One List:

1. The first is by way of invite sent to any email address you choose to provide to the list moderator.
2. The second and far more preferable way though is to create a Yahoo ID (or use the one you already have) and sign up with that.

**Why use a Yahoo ID?** If you only use an email address, you can only send and receive email and you cannot personalize how you receive messages. The One List website will not be available to you. Use a Yahoo ID though and you get access to the entire One List site and all of its features.

**How do I get a Yahoo ID?**

1. Visit this link to get started: <https://login.yahoo.com/>. Look in the lower right portion of the page where it says, "Don't have a Yahoo! ID?" and click on **Sign Up**.
2. Follow the 3-step setup and you should now have your own Yahoo ID.
3. Go to the ESDC "One List" site, <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ESDClist/>, and click on the **"Join This Group"** button on the right side to get started!

**But what about all that SPAM?** Bombarded by email messages is the most common concern members have expressed. You have complete control over that! After you have signed up with a Yahoo ID, you can choose what email address you want to use and how you want to receive messages (if at all). Here is how to edit your membership settings:

- Sign in with your Yahoo ID.
- Click on "Edit Membership" on the One List home screen:



- Scroll down to Step 1 to edit what profile you are using related to the One List, and what email address you want to use to receive messages:

### Step 1. Your Contact Information

The profile shown below will be used to identify you when you access photos, messages, and other great features of your Yahoo! Group. The email address will be used for group messages.

#### Yahoo! Profile

Select the Yahoo! Profile you would like to use for this group. This profile will be used to identify you when you access the group's Web features.

arn\_26

scubafiveo

[\(Add new profile\)](#)

#### Email Address

Choose the email address that you would like group messages sent to.

arn\_26@yahoo.com

[\(Add new email address\)](#)

- Scroll down to Step 2 to edit how you receive messages. You can choose to receive Individual Email, a Daily Digest, only special notices direct from the moderators, or choose not to receive anything at all and only browse posts directly via the One List website:

### Step 2. Message Delivery

Yahoo! Groups lets you choose how you stay in touch.

**Individual Email**

The option to choose if you want to get each group message and special notice individually and immediately, as it is posted.

**Daily Digest**

The option to choose if you want to see all messages but limit the amount of email you receive. We'll compile an email of up to 25 messages and send daily (special notices too!).

**Special Notices** - Receive only important email notices from the group moderator.

**Web Only** - Don't get notified of the latest happenings. Read messages only on the web.

- Click the button on the lower right to "Save Changes", and get busy posting or receiving messages!

So do not be left out. Join the One List today! Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any problems or need a better walk-through of the process.

Andy Norton – [andy\\_norton@comcast.net](mailto:andy_norton@comcast.net)

## OUR NEXT MEETING

**Wednesday, August 6 at Shawn O'Donnell's**

**122 128<sup>th</sup> Street SE**

**Everett WA 98208**

**425-338-5700**

Board meeting, **6:00 p.m.** everyone is welcome to join; general meeting, **7:00 p.m.**

## GUEST SPEAKER

Our guest speaker for August will be Dr. Christopher J. Kozura of "The Vitality Center". Dr. Kozura, a Naturopathic Doctor (N.D.) and Licensed Massage Practitioner (L.M.P.) has degrees from both Bastyr University, School of the Naturopathic Medicine, and Brenneke, School of Massage. He will talk to us about health and fitness and how it relates to activities the we do like diving and life in general. [www.vitalitynaturally.com](http://www.vitalitynaturally.com)

### How to Get to Shawn's:

**Heading north on I-5:** Take exit number 186 for WA-96 E/128<sup>th</sup> St SW. Turn right at 128<sup>th</sup> St SE/WA-96.

**Heading south on I-5:** Take exit number 186 for WA-96 E/128<sup>th</sup> St SW. Turn left at 128<sup>th</sup> St SE/WA-96.

### How to Contact Us

Visit our web site: [www.emeraldseadiveclub.org](http://www.emeraldseadiveclub.org)

Write us: Emerald Sea Dive Club

PO Box 73

Edmonds WA 98020

Contact any of the board members via telephone or e-mail [www.groups.yahoo.com/group/ESDClist](http://www.groups.yahoo.com/group/ESDClist)



## Divers on the Loose -- Any Time Divers Looking For Divers Anytime

☺ Greg Becvar	360-659-2853	<a href="mailto:tridoxia@yahoo.com">tridoxia@yahoo.com</a>
☺ Skip Stacy	425-775-2410	<a href="mailto:skipstacy@comcast.net">skipstacy@comcast.net</a>
☺ Sean Barker	425-351-6850	<a href="mailto:SeanhBarker@comcast.net">SeanhBarker@comcast.net</a>
☺ <u>Ed LaBouy</u>	425-241-3931	<a href="mailto:brownwatered@comcast.net">brownwatered@comcast.net</a>

If you are interested in being included on this list, please contact the editor.

**Editor's Note:** Anyone is welcome to submit a story, a joke, a photo, or a medical item for any of the columns or features. Your submissions are very welcomed!

### Newsletter articles deadlines

September	August 25
October	September 29
November	October 27
December	November 24

## DIVE AND EVENT CALENDAR

DATE	DIVE	SPONSOR
TGIF Dive August 15	Edmonds UWP 6 p.m.	Pam 'n Andy <a href="mailto:pnorton@rwbeck.com">pnorton@rwbeck.com</a> <a href="mailto:andy_norton@comcast.net">andy_norton@comcast.net</a>
Saturday August 23	Picnic Camp Casey	Skip <a href="mailto:skipstacy@comcast.net">skipstacy@comcast.net</a>
Saturday September 13	Fishing Pier Clean-up Edmonds	Fran 206 5421866
TGIF Dive September 19	Mukilteo T Dock 6 p.m.	Pam 'n Andy <a href="mailto:pnorton@rwbeck.com">pnorton@rwbeck.com</a> <a href="mailto:andy_norton@comcast.net">andy_norton@comcast.net</a>
Saturday September 20	Poker Dive Olympic Beach Edmonds 8:45 briefing	Rich Carton <a href="mailto:crich4scuba@verizon.net">crich4scuba@verizon.net</a>
Tuesday – Sunday September 25-28	Hornby Island boat dive \$582.75 & \$185 deposit 3 days lodging/all meals	Ed LaBouy 425-241-3931 <a href="mailto:brownwaterED@comcast.net">brownwaterED@comcast.net</a>
TGIF Dive October 17	Edmonds UWP 6 p.m.	Pam 'n Andy <a href="mailto:pnorton@rwbeck.com">pnorton@rwbeck.com</a> <a href="mailto:andy_norton@comcast.net">andy_norton@comcast.net</a>
*October 30 to November 15 	North Sulawesi, Indonesia Lembah Strait and Bunaken National Park	Laura Orlich 425-985-8976 or Nancy Chase 877-357-0022
TGIF Dive November 21	Cove 2 6 p.m.	Pam 'n Andy <a href="mailto:pnorton@rwbeck.com">pnorton@rwbeck.com</a> <a href="mailto:andy_norton@comcast.net">andy_norton@comcast.net</a>
Continued ↓		

Saturday December 6	Christmas Party Waltz Building	Jill <a href="mailto:jillk@bjbrewster.com">jillk@bjbrewster.com</a> 425-356-9444
TGIF Dive December 19	Edmonds Oil Dock 6 p.m.	Pam 'n Andy <a href="mailto:pnorton@rwbeck.com">pnorton@rwbeck.com</a> <a href="mailto:andy_norton@comcast.net">andy_norton@comcast.net</a>

LAUGHING



BUBBLES

Liveaboard diving will get you to remote reefs where few day-boats go. But, then, you're further away from shore if the boat sinks!

That happened! When his live aboard sank, a lone diver struggled to shore on an island with no other people, no supplies... Nothing. Only bananas and coconuts.

After about four months, he is lying on the beach one day when the most gorgeous woman he has ever seen rows up to him. In disbelief he asks her: "Where did you come from? How did you get here?"

"I rowed from the other side of the island," she says. "I landed here when my cruise ship sank."

"Amazing," he says. "You were really lucky to have a rowboat wash up with you."

"Oh, this?" replies the woman. "I made the rowboat out of raw material that I found on the island; the oars were whittled from gum tree branches; I wove the bottom from palm

"But-but, that's impossible," stutters the man. "You had no tools or hardware. How did you manage?"

"Oh, that was no problem," replies the woman. "On the south side of the island, there is a very unusual strata of alluvial rock exposed. I found that if I fired it to a certain temperature in my kiln, it melted into forgeable ductile iron. I used that for tools and used the tools to make the hardware." The guy is stunned.

"Let's row over to my place," she says.

After a few minutes of rowing, she docks the boat at a small wharf. As the man looks onto shore, he nearly falls out of the boat. Before him is a stone walk leading to an exquisite bungalow painted in blue and white. While the woman ties up the rowboat with an expertly woven hemp rope, the man can only stare ahead, dumbstruck. As they walk into the house, her beautiful breasts bouncing with each step, she says casually, "It's not much, but I call it home. Sit down please; would you like to have a drink?"

"No thank you," he says, still dazed. "Can't take any more coconut juice."

"It's not coconut juice," the woman replies. "I have a still. How about a Pina Colada?"

Trying to hide his continued amazement, the man accepts, and they sit down on her couch to talk. After they have exchanged their stories, the woman announces, "I'm going to slip into something more comfortable. Would you like to take a shower and shave? There is a razor upstairs in the cabinet in the bathroom."

No longer questioning anything, the man goes into the bathroom. There, in the cabinet, is a razor made from a bone handle. Two shells honed to a hollow ground edge are fastened onto its end, inside of a swivel mechanism. "This woman is amazing," he muses. "What next?"

When he returns, she greets him wearing nothing but vines and a shell necklace strategically positioned and smelling faintly of gardenias. She beckons for him to sit down next to her.

"Tell me," she begins suggestively, slithering closer to him, "we've been out here for a very long time. You've been lonely. I've been lonely. There's something I'm sure you really feel like doing right about now, something you've been longing for all these months? You know... " She stares into his eyes. He can't believe what he's hearing. His heart begins to pound. He's truly in luck: "You mean...", he gasps, "...I can actually check my e-mail from here??" (Editor's comment: I KNOW this is not Jerry because he would have the woman check his e-mail **FOR** him! ☺)