



2004 Travel—Where are we going?

Remember to visit our website!
www.internationalscuba.com

Upcoming Lake Weekends:

July 19-20 TBD

August 2-3 TBD

August 16-17

August 30-31

It may seem early, but really it is not too early to start planning your 2004 dive calendar. Spring space fills up fast and we want prime space at low rates. It is so much fun to travel in groups and share your experiences with others. Here is an idea of where we are going in 2004. If you have an idea or want to plan a small group—let us know. Remember we are doing this for “you”.

January—Cozumel 4 days/3 nights ~\$795

February—Cozumel 4 days/3 nights—\$795

March or May—Turks & Caicos 7 days/6 nights ~\$1700

April - Belize 6 days/5 nights ~\$1200

June - Flower Gardens \$350

Dive BVI with Jeff and Casey 5 days/4 nights ~\$1200

July - Flower Gardens \$350

Grand Cayman 7 days/6 nights ~\$1700

August - Flower Gardens \$350

Cozumel 4 days/3 nights ~\$750

September - Aruba 7 days/6 nights ~\$1500

October - BVI with Sail Caribbean \$1195 + air

November - Bonaire 7 days/ 6 nights ~\$1400

December - Christmas in Cozumel 4 days/3 nights ~\$850 or 7 days/6 nights ~\$110

We will start taking deposits on any of the trips in September 2003 in order to get group space and pay deposits to hold the air. This gives you plenty of time to plan and pay for your trips. A \$200 deposit will hold your spot on any trip. If you have friends that have not been on one of our trips—remember I pay a \$25/pp referral fee for folks who book with us over \$1000. It is easy to get a really good discount or earn spending money for your next trip. It adds up fast \$\$\$\$\$



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Tami Gardner

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The World of Divers Continues to Grow

The number of certified divers in the world continues to grow and International Scuba continues to contribute to that growth. We would like to congratulate and thank all those divers who completed their certification in April:

Open Water/Junior Open Water:

Shannon Adams
Emily McDonald
Fred McDonald
John Whilden
Connie Whilden
Cesar Saucedo
Kevin Ewing
Mary Ewing
Kirk Pack

Emergency First Responder

Robert Routh

Divemaster

Keith Smith
Andrea Sorlie

Assistant Instructor

Selena Woodward
Darrel Houck

Peak Performance Buoyancy

Jeff Menzel
Shannon Adams
Mary Ewing
Kevin Ewing

Advanced Open Water

Shannon Adams
Bobby Christensen
Rich Lemmon

Deep Diver

Keith Meadows

DPV Diver

Jeff Britton

Enriched Air

Karen Smith

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Expand Your Diving



Last month I wrote about the excitement of our new fill station. This month I want to talk about another exciting addition. We have just become a TDI facility. For those of you who are not familiar with TDI, it is Technical Diving International. With TDI's training programs we can now offer many additional courses beyond the normal recreational diving that you are used to. Never fear, we are still a PADI 5 Star IDC on the way to growing beyond that. The addition of TDI is an expansion of our current offerings. The training that TDI offers complements the PADI training very well.

The new training programs include:

Advanced Nitrox – This trains you the benefits, hazards and proper procedures of diving with Nitrox up to 100%. Previous to this, we could only offer a course that utilized up to 40% Nitrox.

Decompression Procedures - This course examines the theory, methods and procedures of planned stage decompression diving up to 150 feet. The most common equipment requirements, gear set-ups, decompression techniques and decompression mixtures (including oxygen and Nitrox) are presented.

Extended Range - This course provides the training and experience required to competently utilize air for dives up to 180 feet that require staged decompression, utilizing Nitrox mixtures and oxygen during decompression.

Advanced Level Trimix - This course provides the training required to competently and safely utilize breathing gasses containing helium for dives that require staged decompression, utilizing Nitrox and/or oxygen mixtures during decompression to a maximum depth of 300 feet.

Overhead Environment/Cavern - This course is designed to develop the minimum skills and knowledge for cavern and overhead environment diving within the limits of light penetration; in addition outlines specific hazards associated with cave diving. The cavern course is not intended to provide instruction for cave diving environments.

Introductory Cave - This course introduces the basic principles of cave diving utilizing a single cylinder. Introductory cave diving is the second level in the development of safe techniques for cave diving, directly building upon the cavern course.

Cave - This course is the third stage of training in the series of TDI's cave diver development program. Advanced cave dive planning the practical execution of different types of cave systems and scenarios divers encounter are presented.

Brian Divine

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Diving with Jeff and Casey—Dive BVI

If you want blue water and wide variety of water sports then head on down to the British Virgin Islands. I was lucky enough to have just returned from a week of fun in the BVI's. I was visiting our friends Jeff and Casey. They are still living it up and having a ball with their new jobs and home. For a reminder, they are living on Virgin Gorda and run a dive shop, Dive BVI, on Marina Cay. In other words they are living in paradise.

My first visit to the BVI's was in October of last year on a sailing and diving trip, and that is where my love for the BVI's started. It has only grown after this trip. The British Virgin Islands offer such a vacation variety. The crystal blue water invites snorkelers and divers alike. Throughout most locations the water remains quite calm and provides excellent visibility. The coral reefs are some of the healthiest and vibrant I have seen lately, and are home to a wide variety of Caribbean life. On this visit I saw my first Caribbean Manta Ray. The ship and sunken wrecks provide a breeding ground for life and a hideaway for large crustaceans. "Lobzilla" calls the Rhone home.

Besides great diving, the island water is ideal for sailing as well – it is after all, the sailing capital of the world. In October I spent a week living aboard a sailboat, and this trip we did an all day sailing trip to Anegada. There is nothing better then to be on a sailboat cruising along with strong winds and a first mate serving drinks and snacks. We were aboard the Spirit of Anegada that left Virgin Gorda at 8:30am and arrived at the shores of Anegada at noon. We then enjoyed a picnic lunch before riding the dingy to shore. We then took a cab ride to a secluded beach where we snorkeled, swam, played beach football and enjoyed the sun. At 3:30 we

were headed back to the boat at set sail for Virgin Gorda arriving just in time to watch a beautiful sunset.



For the land lovers that still want a little water time, the Islands are abundant with beautiful beaches. Beaches like Savannah Bay on Virgin Gorda with the soft white sand

that reminds you of Florida, or the sandy beaches with remains of coral on Marina Cay. And you can't forget about the Baths. The famous beaches surrounded by large rock formations. Each beach we visited provided excellent snorkeling, kayaking, wind surfing and



s u n n i n g opportunities.

So if you are looking for your next tropical vacation and want a variety of fun and gorgeous landscape, then the British Virgin

Islands might be just what you are looking for. Besides, you would have the opportunity to dive with Jeff and Casey again.

Andrea Sorlie

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Featured Product— Low-end 35mm Camera—Great Starter

An underwater camera system with a certified depth rating of 100 feet. Camerashield is the alternative to low quality disposable underwater cameras as well as overpriced overcomplicated dive cameras. Economical enough for everyone to participate in great Underwater photography without sacrificing quality. The ultra high impact clear housing is injection molded with the same G.E. Lexan® Polycarbonate resin used in bullet proof glass and offers superior clarity and impact resistance.

The newest addition to the Camerashield product line is our CSC100 Combo, which includes a sporty, High Quality 35 mm Self Winding, Electronic Flash Camera. The camera can be removed from the Camerashield and used as an everyday camera on land while the housing can be used with hundreds of other self-winding digital and 35 mm cameras. With a factory certified depth rating to 100 Feet (33 Meters), Camerashield will help bring home memories from your roughest adventure. Vacations are for relaxing and having fun. Why stress over thousand dollar camera equipment during your travels, when you can capture the same high quality pictures with a Camerashield.

Finally, a simple to use, economical Underwater Camera System for Scuba Diving, Snorkeling, for the Beach, Pool, in the rain, white water rafting, kayaking, canoeing, surfing, snow skiing, snow boarding, etc.

Following is a **partial** list of cameras that work with the Camerashield.

Bell & Howell : AF

Canon: A10, A20, S110, Sure Shot Owl PF, CPKA10, Elph Power Shot S300 (digital), Sure Shot BF (35mm), Sure Shot 65, Sure Shot 85, Sure Shot 105, Power Shot S100, Elph 2

Casio: QV2300DL (digital)

Concord: EYEQ3X (digital)

Easyspot: ES17, ES27, ES37

Kodak: DC3400 (No Zoom digital), KB28 (35mm), Advantix C650, Advantix

C750, CX4300

Hewlett Packard: Photo Smart315 (digital)

Jazz: JDC10 (digital), 207 (35mm), 101 (35mm)

Largan: Chameleon (digital), L MINI350 (digital)

Minolta: Explorer EX (35mm), Zoom 90

Nikon: Zoom 70

Olympus: TRIP MD3 (digital), D-510, D-150, D100, Trip XB40AF (35mm), Trip MD3 (35mm), XB3 (35mm), D100, D360L, Zoom 80, D380

Panasonic: Zoom

Polaroid: PDC640 (digital), 7500Z

PRETEC: DC-520 (digital)

RCA: CDS-1005 (digital)

Samsung: Maxima 30S (35mm), Zoom 70GL, Zoom 100GL

Sony: DSC P20 (digital), DSC P30 (digital), Cybershot

Vivitar: BV35, 3500, XM300, 550PZ, P2314, T301, 3680

Call or come by for details –It takes great shots. The retail price is \$59.99



Scorpion Fish



Hawksbill Turtle



Moorish Idol—Pacific fish



Green Moray Eel with Banded Coral Shrimp



Trumpet Fish

-Patti Stewart
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Please visit our website. We do our best to keep it up to date. Let us know what you think about the site and the newsletter. An important part of our success has been the friendships developed among customers and staff. That's part of why we dive.

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Creature Feature – Spotted *Scorpion Fish*



Scorpaena plumieri

The Spotted Scorpion Fish a.k.a Stone Fish is common to Florida, Bahamas, Gulf of Mexico, Mexico, and as far north as New York.

This fish will turn the exact color of its environment and hangout waiting for dinner. It will sit extremely still when divers approach hoping its camouflage is enough for us to pass it by.

The barbs on it's fins are poisonous so touching these guys is a no-no. If you have something that will cause him to stir then you may be in for a treat as they spread their pectoral fins and display gorgeous colors of yellow, orange, and purple.