



# International Scuba

## Happy Holidays and Thank You!

**Remember to visit our website!**

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

**Upcoming Lake Weekends:**

- Dec 18-19
- Jan 15-16
- Jan 29-30
- Feb 12-13

**Upcoming Trips:**

- Jan 14-17 Cozumel Advanced!
- Feb 5-6 Flower Gardens
- Feb 11-14 Cozumel Carnival!!!!
- Mar 17-18 Flower Gardens
- Apr 11-18 Akumal

**Upcoming Classes:**

- Adv. OW 12/4, 1/15, 1/29
- EFR 12/7, 2/1, 3/1
- Rescue 12/10, 1/220
- Nitrox 12/18, 1/18, 2/15
- DAN 02 12/14, 1/11, 2/8

Howdy everyone:

We want to give a special THANK YOU to all our customers for another successful year. We had a blast at the Open House on Saturday. We were jam packed most of the day. I believe everyone was happy and full as the food and beverages were flowing nicely.

I know many of you picked up the "Dear Santa" sheets to give to loved ones for gift ideas. It is a great way to get exactly what you want. Suzanne gets kudos for that idea.

Hopefully most of you noticed the renovation on the front classroom. We are pleased at the outcome of the hard work. Phil and Wendy Fox get credit for that.

Speaking of Phil and Wendy, we would like to welcome



them to our team. They began Divemaster with me on our August Cozumel trip and completed their studies November 30th. Please look for their bio coming soon to the web.

Come on in and check out our stocking stuffers and great sales items if you have been holding out on gear. The divers who attended on Saturday's Open House found fantastic deals.

The team at International SCUBA wishes you and yours a very Happy Holidays and Happy New 2005.

Have a great weekend and hope to see you soon.

- Patti Stewart  
[Patti@internationalscuba.com](mailto:Patti@internationalscuba.com)

## 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 certifications: **If you have hit a milestone please send me an email.**

**Inside this issue:**

Polar Bear Dive	2
Featured Product:-Deep See Sandals and flip-flops	2
Travel 2005 Update	3
Not Sure Where to Go?	3
Creature Feature— Finger Sponges	4
CD Corner—DAN Training	4

**Open Water/Junior Open Water**

Richard Lemon  
Deborah Lemon

**National Geographic Open Water Diver**

Simon Warner  
William Ross

**Advanced Open Water**

Denise McNally

**Enriched Air Diver**

Richard Lemon  
Deborah Lemon

**On-site Neuro**

Dave Prichard  
John Hall  
George Vincent  
Darrell Gardner  
Amanda Rickman  
Walter Hodges  
Gilberto Hori  
John Williams  
Suzanne Williams  
Stacie Collins  
Rich Thomas

**Photography**

Brian Cleveland

**Dry Suit**

Matt Rodger

**Hazardous Marine Life**

Dave Prichard  
John Hall  
George Vincent  
Darrell Gardner  
Amanda Rickman  
Walter Hodges  
Gilberto Hori  
John Williams  
Suzanne Williams  
Stacie Collins  
Rich Thomas

**Milestones**

**25 Dives**

**30 Dives**

Matt Rodger

**40 Dives**

**50 Dives**

**60 Dives**

**70 Dives**

**100 Dives**

Gale Smith

**500 Dives**

## It's That Time of Year Again....

As I go outside, I find that there's a little nip in the air. I go to the stores and see red, white and green. A little fat man with a funny beard and hat seems to be seen everywhere. This can only mean one thing, the polar bear dive is just around the corner.

Ok, I hear some of you ask, 'what is the polar bear dive?' It's an annual event at Clear Springs Scuba Park where we all get together on January 1<sup>st</sup> and go diving. Well some go diving and others sit on the shore by the heaters and get entertained by those of us in the water. There are a number of awards given out including the longest dive, wimpiest dive, youngest diver, oldest diver, and least dressed diver. It's mostly a social event, and good time can be had all whether, you go diving or not.

Ok, I can hear you say, "It's too cold, I'm not going diving!!!!" I understand, but it really isn't bad if you are dressed appropriately. Even if you don't want to dive, I highly recommend coming out for the social aspect.

We generally have breakfast and snacks. The idea is that it starts mid morning, and ends around 1pm or so. You have the rest of the day to relax, watch football, recover, and warm up, etc.

Keep an eye out on our website for more information. We'll have shelters, heaters, hot water for coffee, tea, hot chocolate, etc.

Ok, I'm going to tell on myself a little bit. Last year, my dry suit leaked so I didn't stay in the water very long. What did that get me? You guessed it ... the wimpy diver award. This year, I'm bringing my doubles and going for the longest dive. You have to come and watch to see if I can do it.



Happy diving and I hope to see you on the 1<sup>st</sup>.

- Brian Divine  
[Brian@internationalscuba.com](mailto:Brian@internationalscuba.com)

## Featured Product— Deep See Sandals and Flip-Flops

CASUAL, COMFY YET RUGGED FOOTWEAR FROM DEEP SEE

Happy Holidays everyone!! On several occasions we've been asked if we carry any type of sandals or "flip flops" and unfortunately we had to answer no. Well, that isn't the case anymore!! International SCUBA is proud to announce the addition of Deep See's Seaworthy Strap-on Sandal and their Seaside Thong.



The Seaworthy is a hardy strap on style sandal similar to the "trekking" sandals Teva, Nike and other high-end footwear companies carry, without the high price tag. They have an anatomic "EVA" mid-

sole that provides comfort without absorbing water and as you can see the rugged rubber outsole is built for grip and protection. The straps are made from durable nylon, have suede uppers, a comfortable neoprene lining and that all-important dive flag we all love to sport.



The Seaside Thong is just that, a thong or "flip-flop" sandal for those of us who just don't want to be "tied down". As with its cousin, it too has an

anatomic "EVA" mid-sole that provides comfort without absorbing water and as you can see has the same rugged rubber outsole is built for grip and protection. The strap is made from durable nylon, lined in fleece for superior comfort. This strap is attached securely to the rugged outsole in the traditional "three-point" thong style with a supple toe post that sports a small dive flag tag.

Please stop by and try on a pair for yourself, they're awesome... Just ask Patti!!!

- Suzanne  
[Suzanne@internationalscuba.com](mailto:Suzanne@internationalscuba.com)



## Travel 2005 Update

WOW!! What a great Open House we had on Saturday December 4<sup>th</sup>. If you missed it stop by the shop and see some of the GREAT changes and specials for the holidays. The 2005-2006 trip schedule is out and booking up fast. The January and February (Carnival) Cozumel trips are both SOLD OUT!! The March Bonaire trip already has 12 people and room for 4 more. This is very exciting!!! The first quarter of 2005 is almost sold out and will be sold out by the end of the year. If you are looking at one of the 2005 trips it is time to get into the shop and sign up. New trips are forming and still being added to the schedule. Please let us know if you want to go somewhere that is not listed. International Scuba is set up to do individual trips to any destination you choose. Teaming up with a full-service agency offers International Scuba the opportunity to serve ALL your travel needs from Disney to the Solomon Islands. We book it all. You dream it, we book it!! Take a look at the schedule and choose your destination:

January 14-17 Cozumel **SOLD OUT**  
February 18-21 Cozumel **SOLD OUT**  
March 12-19 Bonaire (The Plaza)  
April 8-11 Akumal (dive the Cenotes)  
May 16-23 Belize Turneffe Flats Private Island  
June 4-11 Little Cayman  
June 11-18 Bonaire (Buddy Dive)  
June 18-25 Roatan (CoCo view)  
July 16-23 BWI ( with Jeff and Casey McNutt)

June 17-20 Cozumel  
July 1-4 Cozumel  
August 5-8 Cozumel (family trip) sells fast  
September 22- Oct 2 Fiji (Beqa Lagoon)  
November 5-12 Sailing Charter with Sail BVI  
(almost sold out)  
December – not planned yet where do you want to go

Love to see you there. Come by the shop and see pictures and or DVD's on any of these destinations. Be watching for a trip to Bali/Wakatobi in 2006. If you do not know what Wakatobi is come by the shop and find out.

**-Tami Gardner**  
[Tami@internationalscuba.com](mailto:Tami@internationalscuba.com)



## Not sure Where you want to go?

Haven't we all asked ourselves this question. Some of us head to Cozumel every chance we get while others head further south to Curacao or Bonaire. What if neither of those places appeal to you and you are ready for some new adventure but outside of drooling at dive magazines you aren't sure where to head?

There is a Vacationfest at the Gaylord in Grapevine on January 29-30th. It is being sponsored by CVS Pharmacy, Bally Total Fitness, The Parking Spot, KMSR Radio, Dallas Morning News and Ft. Worth Star Telegram. You will get to see the Alaska Sled dog team, Canadian Mounties, and a small version of Cirque de Soleil, in addition to authentic dances from Hawaii, Tonga, Tahiti, Samoa, and New Zealand.

You will be able to go around the world in a 50,000 square foot ballroom looking at new destinations and getting more information. The entry fee is \$5 and we will have coupons for \$2 off. Parking should be around \$5 also. What a great way to go in search of new places and gather information rather than just pictures on the web,

You can expect to see the Caribbean, both USVI and BVI, South Pacific including Bali, Solomon Islands, Yap, Palau and many more represented in one room where you can drool even closer. You can pick up as many brochures and flyers as you can handle, head home to relax and look through your new vacation destination, and then call Travel For You or us at International SCUBA to make that dream come true.

**-Patti Stewart**  
[Patti@internationalscuba.com](mailto:Patti@internationalscuba.com)





2540 Marsh Lane, Suite 128  
 Carrollton, TX 75006  
 Phone: 972-416-8400  
 Email: info@internationalscuba.com

*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*

## CD Corner

Hi there divers,

We are still teaching lots of professionals. Who would have thought. We would like to congratulate Phil and Wendy Fox for completing Divemaster and joining our team. They worked through the program in 4 months and enjoyed most all of it. Their map and emergency plan hang proudly in the front classroom.

We have challenged the remaining Divemaster candidates with creating a map that would send the Fox' to the back classroom. Only time will tell....

We just had a blast with Hazardous Marine Life and On-site Neurological Assessment classes. We had 12 folks stuffed in the front classroom at one time. Class was just about to begin—paperwork of course and as I powered up the presentation, the mouse decided not to work. Well, Brian and I both did/do IT work so after it, we went while the students were filling in forms. The story doesn't end well. If you have ever seen your computer blue screen you know what that means. UGH!!!!!!!!!!!!!! All was not lost, Suzanne's laptop on a ladder served as our guide. The students learned all about aquatic injuries and how to treat them by practicing on each other with marking pencils and bandages. No

incriminating pictures were taken. The Neuro class was fun as well. It is designed to make you more aware of your physical well being before and after dives. Take a look in our instructor's dive bag the next time you are on a trip with us. You will see their cool new slates.

We look forward to lots of fun and education in 2005. If you are interested in becoming a PADI professional give me a call, send an email, or come by. We would love to grow the pie!

Happy Holidays!



**Patti Stewart**  
**Patti@internationalscuba.com**

## Creature Feature — Finger Sponge



We don't write about sponges and corals enough, only pretty fishies. Without these guys we wouldn't have critters. So here goes:

These are gorgeous Finger Sponges (Green, Red-Rope, and Red-Orange Branching) that we see all of the time and many have brittle stars on them.

Size ranges from 8" to 3' and can be found a depths ranging from 15' — 80'.

They are typically found in Florida, Bahamas, and the Caribbean.

Habitat and Behavior:

**Green:** Inhabit coral reefs and walls. Frequently covered with winding chains of Gold Zoanthids

**Red-Rope:** Inhabit coral reef tops, occasionally walls. On walls may closely resemble Row Pore Rope Sponges but their characteristic upward growth pattern remains distinctive.

**Red-Orange Rope:** Inhabit coral reef tops, often near drop-offs.

**- Suzanne**  
**Suzanne@internationalscuba.com**