



## May Day!

Hi,

I don't know about you but it's been tough working indoors the past week. The weather is incredible! While the rainy days last winter gave us the blues, it's going to make for the best diving in years. All of the dive spots around the state are full again. Here are a couple tips to get off on the right foot.

- ◆ We've seen lots of divers coming in to get their gear tuned & ready for diving. Get yours in ASAP for your annual service. Avoid the last minute panic when you're ready to hit the water.
- ◆ If it's been awhile since you've been wet, stop in to knock the rust off in our pool before your trip. We also offer the **Scuba Tune Up** course every Wednesday.
- ◆ The Dive around Texas is in Full

Swing again this year. Last year over \$10k in prizes were given away to divers who participated. Stop by either shop to enter. This year's T-shirt is really nice and everyone will want to get one. If you would like to learn more about the program give me a call and I can fill you in on the details.

- ◆ Remember we're diving & training every weekend. Please join us at the lake for a dive even if you don't have a buddy
- ◆ Do you have a diving goal for this year? Would you like help planning a course of study? We'll be happy to make some time to sit down and plot your next step.

Memorial Day is the day we break out our Bermuda shorts, slip into our brightly colored Hawaiian shirt and expose those pasty white legs while

family & friends gather for grilled treats. In keeping with the long held tradition this year we will be spending Memorial Day weekend at Clear Springs Scuba Park. Starting Friday evening with a night dive. Wear your favorite Hawaiian Shirt and join the fun!

Join us **Memorial Day Weekend**: SEE PAGE 2 for Details

Rich

## Class Schedules & Trips— at a glance:

### WEEKEND:

MAY 15-16 CSSP

MAY 22-23 CSSP

MAY 29-31 CSSP—MEMORIAL DAY BASH

### WHERE TO:

JUN COZUMEL—DETAILS TO FOLLOW

JUN FLOWER GARDENS

JUNE 12-19 BVI WRECK WEEK

JUL BLACKBEARDS CRUISE

AUG BELIZE AGGRESSOR

NOV BONAIRE

JUN 2011—FIJI

AUG 2012—COCOS AGGRESSOR

AUG 2012—GALAPAGOS AGGRESSOR

## Specialty of the month— Night and PPB

### The Dive Season is Officially OPEN!

For many of us diving is an endless season. During the month of May **PADI Diving Society** is featuring the **Dry Suit Specialty**. Dry suits really do extend your diving season and open up new possibilities for diving exciting and less traveled locations. Normally I'd say May is a little late to dive a dry suit locally but with the **White's Fusion Suit** you can tailor the undergarments to the water temp for a comfortable dive year round. We have **Fusion Dry Suits** available for rental at both stores and May is the perfect time to learn to use one. **PADI Diving Society Members** receive a **McNitt** micro-fiber towel to dry your face and hair if you sign up during May.

June brings us the **Peak Performance Buoyancy Specialty**. Buoyancy is the number one thing all divers could use some improvement in. There is no way to truly be comfortable in the water if you can't control your body while diving. When you find yourself struggling to maintain a consistent depth on dives it's pretty obvious that you need buoyancy help. You might not realize that lots of other things can be improved with a buoyancy course. If you answer yes to any of these questions, make your way to our next PPB class.

- ◆ Do you hate always being the

one that calls the dive short because of poor air consumption?

- ◆ Have you ever bumped in to coral and received a painful reminder not to touch the bottom?
- ◆ Do you feel like diving is sometimes a lot of work?
- ◆ Are your pictures not as sharp as you would like?
- ◆ Would you like to do the cool motionless suspended in space safety stop you see the dive guides doing?
- ◆ Would you like to improve everything you do underwater?

The magic bullet for all these questions is working on your buoyancy control.

- ◆ You will improve air consumption if you are more streamlined and efficient in the water.
- ◆ You will learn to judge the amount of space you take up underwater and to move more gracefully.
- ◆ You will stop using unnecessary movements and kick more efficiently making dives more relaxing.
- ◆ Photographers will instantly get award winning shots of exotic creatures! (Ok maybe that's not true)

- ◆ Photos will be less shaky and you will get closer to your subject with improved buoyancy skills.

- ◆ On your next trip you will be able to do more than just stay down for the 3 minute stop. With a little practice you too can effortlessly hover motionless as long as your heart desires.

- ◆ Once you have total control of your position in the water you can focus on the task at hand. That means you will do everything better and things will come to you easily.

- ◆ It's like having your very own **EASY** button to push.

If none of these things sounds appealing, then remember that **PADI Diving Society Members** get a unique T-shirt proclaiming your command of Buoyancy!

**Memorial Day May 28<sup>th</sup> -31<sup>st</sup>** is our **Night Diving Weekend**. Each night **Friday, Saturday and Sunday** night we will conduct **one Night dive**. This is the perfect time to earn your **Night Diving Specialty!** There will be camping, dive movies and activities for those who choose to hang around after the dives. Sign up early and ask about our special light package for making the most out of your nocturnal explorations.



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## Our World of Divers Continues to Grow

### Open Water (White Belt)

Hunter Snowden  
John Snowden  
Emma Beck  
Dayton Blankenship  
Corey Tatman  
Julia Hulse  
Ron Bevans  
Pam Johnson  
Ryan Kile  
Hunter Powell  
Bryan West

### National Geographic Open Water

Katia Plourde

### Advanced Open Water

Brian Shrier  
Michael Hughes  
Tim Corbeil

### EFR

Joe Munoz  
Bryan West  
Alan Meador  
Carey Nash  
Rocky Starr

### Dry Suit

Brian Shrier

### Altitude

Ralph Little  
Keith Davis  
Dennis Maurer  
Mike Lochabay  
Neil Smith

### Enriched Air

Ravi Venkitkaraman  
Anu Venakikaraman

### Underwater Navigator

Brian Shrier

### Underwater Naturalist

Bryan West  
Jim West

### Peak Performance Buoyancy

Ryan Kile

### MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND PARTY

**Friday** – Night Dive, Grilling, Dive Themed Movie, Camping

**Saturday**- Lots of Diving, Grilling, Night Dive, Movie, and Project Aware Specialty for very special price

**Sunday**- More Diving, Grilling, **1<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL SCUBA OLYMPICS** with 5 events and the winning buddy team takes home coveted award, Night Dive, Equipment Specialty special price and Movie

**Monday**- Diving and Grilling

You may have noticed we are doing three nights of diving. This is the perfect time to take the Night Diver Specialty. Sign up now it should fill up quickly. We are offering a nice light combo for those that need a good set of lights.

**UK SL4 LED,**

**UK Mini Q40 LED**

**Laser Light Stick for tank marker.**

**All for only \$115.00 savings of \$35.00**

**June 6<sup>th</sup> will be NTSRA FUN Dive Day** at Clear Springs with Contests, Food Gear Demos and a chance to meet and catch up with friends. It's going to be a blast so make plans to join. For more details go to [www.dfw-diving.com](http://www.dfw-diving.com)

**July 10<sup>th</sup> we are planning to descend on Possum Kingdom Lake for the Annual Hells Gate Clean Up!**

This year we will be departing from the Inland Divers Boat Dock. The past couple of years Dave Robinson of Inland Divers Dive Club has been very hospitable allowing us to camp on their beautiful lake front property and dive from their dock. We should find lots of newly deposited bottles, cans and other crazy stuff dropped by the boaters celebrating the Fourth of July the week before the clean up. Everyone that has participated in previous years knows how great Todd and Ann Burns from Scuba Point are for diving on PK. They really go all out for us year round when we come to dive. Show your appreciation by joining us. Let's make it the best Clean Up yet.



## Activities



Dive BVI invites you to enjoy the beautiful island of Virgin Gorda and the beautiful dives that surround her shores. This very special Wreck Week Package brings divers to a relaxing place where history and beauty supply the backdrop for camaraderie and adventure.

*Jump in and join us!*

*Click the link above for details*

**Jun 12-19, 2010**

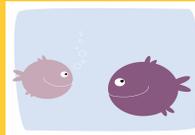


Activities

# LEARNING CAN BE FUN!

If you are 10 years or older, now is the time to **DIVE** in and

complete your PADI Jr. Open Water Scuba Course.



You get to breathe

Do you know what SCUBA stands for? ...

**S**elf

**C**ontained

**U**nderwater

**B**reathing

**A**pparatus

... Now you know!



Want to learn how to  
SCUBA DIVE?



Upcoming 2010 classes:

*June 21-25 8am—Noon*  
(one spot left in Carrollton)

*July 12-16 8am-Noon*

\* Contact International Scuba for all the details!

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 team. That's part of why we dive.

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GETTING YOU THERE... STARTS HERE!

## CD Corner — Going Backwards to Go Forward

Howdy,

I hope you are getting excited about the summer and all of the diving you are planning to do. What? No Plans? Shame on you - how about Dive Around Texas 2010. Flower Gardens? Cozumel - there are some great prices surfacing.

If some of you visited Carrollton the end of April Brian would have said I was out of town. Diving? No so much. As many of you might know, I had a 15 plus year corporate career in software technical sales. I was in Omaha Nebraska assisting some really great folks get ready for their grand opening in a facility that would make us all jealous. They use the same software to run the front computer and inventory management that we do. We aren't experts but have close to a year more experience using it. Very powerful but needs a little finesse to run.

I had loads of fun stepping back into the consulting role. It is a lot like teaching - you are helping someone with less experience learn something new. I not only got to assist on the software side but also on the business and training aspects. Kind of fun to share experience and to get a new look at another facility. Always keeping my eyes open to learn something.

If you are ever in Omaha—stop in and see Rena and gang at DiVentures. Their new facility is due to open in June. WOW!

I hope that I picked up something new to try down here. Watch for changes!

The season is kicking off in high gear already with the scouts both troops and crews. Sea Base is a wonderful place in the Keys for developing a love of the water. We are excited to be apart of that transformation.

We are also looking forward to Memorial Day weekend where the guys are going to have a scuba Olympics - should be fun to not only watch but participate. Come join us!

Once again, we are always striving to do better and be better. IF you see something that needs fixing/changing please share with us.

Cheers,

Patti

## Creature Feature — Sailfin Molly

On a recent trip to Mexico I was treated to a wonderful show put on by several colorful fish that resided in the Cenote Ponderosa/ Garden of Eden. Not only were the fish beautiful with a large flowing dorsal fin, their wild antics made them impossible to ignore. The male fish would bounce around flashing its fins doing an excellent impersonation of a peacock. Their frantic display along with frantic dashing about was all done in the name of love. These males were vying for the affection of the females to breed. The females were very nice but the males stole the show with their flashiness. I couldn't wait to get back to my computer to look up what this crazy fish was. Turns out it was a Sailfin Molly of the Mexican variety that makes its home in the cenotes and brackish water along the Atlantic coast. Next time you dive the Cenotes of Mexico look for these hilarious fish that are always working to upstage each other. Below is some addition information of a more scientific nature about my new little friend the Sailfin Molly.



### Sailfin Molly

Poecilia latipinna

#### DESCRIPTION

##### Taxonomy and Basic Description

The sailfin molly, *Poecilia latipinna*, belongs to the family Poeciliidae, the livebearers. Other members of this group include the Eastern mosquito fish, the guppy, mollies and the platys and swordfishes the latter two groups are common in the aquarium trade.

The sailfin molly is a small species, seldom exceeding 12.5 cm (5 inches) in length however it can attain lengths of 15 cm (6 inches). The sailfin molly is sexually dimorphic; males have a longer, higher sail-like dorsal fin that lies close to the fish and that can be extended like a sail. Females have a smaller rounded dorsal fin. Males use their enlarged, colorful dorsal fins in courtship display. Females give birth to up to 141 young, but usual brood size is 6 to 36 individuals; the number of young increases with the size of the mother. Young receive no parental care and mollies grow and reach sexual maturity quickly, generally living for only one or two years. Sailfin mollies grow faster in brackish water than in freshwater.

The sailfin molly is an omnivorous herbivore, feeding mainly on algae, although they will also

consume small invertebrates, including mosquito larvae. Like the Eastern mosquito fish, the sailfin molly has been noted as a possible control species for mosquito populations. The sailfin is at the lower end of the food web and serves as food for insects, fishes, reptiles, amphibians and mammals. In open systems, the sailfin molly is consumed by many larger fishes; in closed pools, ditches, ponds and impoundments the sailfin molly provides food for wading birds.

#### HABITAT AND NATURAL COMMUNITY REQUIREMENTS

The sailfin molly is an extremely tolerant species, which appears to be extremely prolific and adaptable. It can live in fresh as well as saltwater and is tolerant of salinities as high as 87 ppt although it seems to prefer slightly brackish waters of less than 10 ppt.

