

# Discover Diving

NEWSLETTER  
JULY - AUGUST 2011

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**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE  
DISCOVER DIVING RIDE TEAM!**

*"Divers riding for the cure"*

*We raised over \$16K!*



On Saturday, June 25th 31 riders with the **Discover Diving Ride Team** took to the streets of western New York to participate in the 16th annual Ride for Roswell. Over 7,000 riders participated in this ride and raised over \$3.1 Million Dollars for cancer research and treatment. This is the first year that we fielded a team to participate in the ride to represent divers in western New York. We couldn't be prouder of all our riders and would like to thank



those who rode as well all of our supporters who contributed in support of our team. Divers are a great group of people and your

efforts will make a difference! By the time all of our contributions have been entered our team will have raised over \$17,000! That's an impressive achievement especially considering this was our first year fielding a team. Congratulations to everyone who played a part in our success. We are already making plans for next year so plan now to join us!

While we're on the topic of congratulations....

**CONGRATULATIONS TO  
DAVID WIERZBA!**

**On completion of his NAUI Instructor Rating**

Many of you know Dave for his superb work as an underwater videographer or perhaps you know him as one of Discover Diving's top divemasters! Sadly Dave will no longer be offering his services as a divemaster at Discover Diving, but we're thrilled to report that Dave recently completed the requirements to qualify as a NAUI Instructor! So congratulations Dave and welcome aboard as our newest instructor!



Dave Wierzba  
Pre Dive at Dutch Springs

# What is an “Advanced Diver”

Some thoughts by Dallas Edmiston, NAUI 4099

That was the question recently posed to me by a good friend of mine, **Captain Fred Calhoun** from Gloucester Massachusetts. Fred has been diving longer than most of today’s divers have been alive (over 50 years now) and he has seen a lot of changes over his years. What he has observed prompted him to ask, “What is an Advanced Diver?”

Let’s take a stab at this and see what we come up with. Most training agencies require five or six dives to be designated an “Advanced Diver”. Really? So let’s see. “I finish my NAUI Scuba Diver course (5 dives) and then take the NAUI Advanced Diver course (6 dives) and poof, I’m now advanced.” Pretty cool, right? Or maybe you’re thinking this sounds a bit crazy.

Think about it. Can you name any other activity where anyone would propose that in as little as a few hours (the combined length of 11 dives) you could be declared advanced at anything? Sky diving? Skiing? Flying an airplane? The answer would be no for any of these. So why did divers begin thinking they could be “advanced” in such little time? Answer: Because training agencies wanted to sell another card. Unfortunately, for most divers their knowledge and ability don’t match the skill level implied by the name on the card.

Don’t get me wrong. The NAUI Advanced Diver course is worth pursuing. You will have the opportunity to add new skills and knowledge to your diving abilities, but let’s not kid ourselves here; doing something once or reading about it in a text book is NOT the same as developing proficiency. So how do you become an “Advanced Diver”? Answer: Dive. Period. Let me say that again. To become “advanced” you have to dive.

One of the comments we frequently hear from divers is that they do not want to dive the same

dive site. Maybe it’s a wreck or reef. Whatever their reason, these divers fail to recognize the benefit of repetitive dives, sometimes even to the same site. No two dives are the same, so even if you are making two dives on the same shipwreck, the alert diver will gain something new from the experience; and you will also observe more as your familiarity increases with each dive site, which will only add to a more enjoyable diving experience. In short, as you spend more time in the water you will not only find yourself operating at a higher level of competency, but you will also enjoy your dives more!

As a scuba instructor, nothing is more satisfying than watching a student become increasingly competent in the water. A good instructor can help you design a personal dive schedule that will help you become a confident and safe diver. Maybe you are thinking this sounds like a good idea. If so, you will be interested in a new dive series we will begin offering this fall at Discover Diving.

If you would like to learn more call the shop today and ask about our new **Platinum Dive Program**. This program will focus on clear learning objectives, experience thresholds and mastery before moving from one level to the next. Whether you are a brand new diver or seasoned veteran, you will improve your skill and comfort in the water. For most divers it will take one to two years to complete the requirements, but when you finish you will know that you have obtained a level of skill, competence, and confidence that few divers exhibit today. During training dives a maximum 1:2 instructor to student ratio will apply, assuring you the utmost attention and benefit for your time. So if you are serious about wanting to improve as a diver, give us a call and we will talk to you about how you can qualify for this challenging course and take your diving abilities to a whole new level!

# 17th Annual Underwater Treasure Hunt & Picnic

Seek treasures and win fabulous prizes from Discover Diving

**It's time again for our  
Annual Underwater Treasure Hunt  
and Family Picnic**

**Sunday, August 14th  
1:00 PM to 5:00 PM**

**Isle View Park, Tonawanda NY**

Call today to make your reservations for your entire family to attend what is always one of our most popular events of the season. Registration will be held at the main lot near the boat launch where divers can assemble their gear before being ferried to our entrance point upstream. Our top prize this year is an **Aqualung Legend Supreme Regulator (MSRP \$680)**! But like the NYS Lottery, you have to be in it to win it! Come join the fun! All divers will receive an event t-shirt plus everyone is assured of winning at least one prize! After the dive we will host a picnic dinner including grilled meats, salads, desserts and non-alcoholic beverages.

**Divers - \$35.00**

**Non-divers - \$10**

**Kids 9 & under - Free**

**Special Offer**

**Purchase an  
Aqualung Legend LX Supreme ACD**

**Just \$625**



And Receive a coupon  
for 35% off any other  
single item purchase  
(\$200 maximum retail)

This is the only regulator you will ever need! Perfect for cold or water water diving and the Automatic Closing Device (ACD) assures you will never flood the first stage because you forgot to install the dust cap. And remember, every Legend regulator purchased at Discover Diving includes first year service free, our lifetime guaranteed service rate and free lifetime service parts!

**Waterproof 5 mm Wet Suits**  
Still Available at our Special Price of Just

**\$179**

(Normally \$399 per suit)

**Earn your NAUI Nitrox Diver Certification this Summer!**

Attend either classroom session

Thursday, August 18th - 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM or

Tuesday, September 20th - 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM



Using nitrox is easy and allows divers to extend allowable bottom time by a up to a factor of two! For example, the MDT for an air diver on RGBM Tables is 25 minutes, but for diver with nitrox the MDT can be up to 50 minutes! Most divers today use nitrox. If you're not already certified, you should be too! Take our one evening class and you will be ready to dive!

# Fall Diving Trips & Other Upcoming Events

Beat the cost of travel. Join us for these local dives or weekend trips!

**Dive the C.B. Benson aboard the Favors** - Saturday, August 13, 2011. The Benson was built in 1873 and lost in 1893 during a storm on Lake Erie. Today she sits upright in 85 feet of water making her an ideal dive for recreational divers to enjoy shipwreck diving close to home. Sign up online or call the shop today to reserve your space. We only make this trip once or twice a year so don't miss this opportunity! Cost \$75.00

**Dive the George Whalen aboard the Southwinds** - Saturday, August 20, 2011. Divers hit the bow of the wreck right at 130 feet so this dive is for very advanced divers or those with technical training. Maximum depth is 145 feet. Divers have a choice on this charter to make either on long decompression dive or two shorter recreational dives. Appropriate training and experience is required so call the shop if you have any questions about this particular charter. Cost \$120.00

**St. Lawrence Seaway, Brockville ONT** - September 24 & 25, 2011. The scenery in the 1000 Islands is breath taking above and below the surface. One of most popular and requested trips, which is why we go twice. Cost: \$385. Includes boat charters Saturday & Sunday, lunch both days and 2 nights lodging (dbl. occupancy)



## Soldiers Undertaking Disabled Scuba

Recently we had the opportunity to meet John Thomas, founder and President of SUDS (Soldiers Undertaking Disabled Scuba). John was moved to start this organization after witnessing first hand the magnitude of injuries and the daunting recoveries of returning vets at Walter Reed Hospital. He came up with the idea of using scuba diving to help rehabilitate soldiers and won the support of the military to make his idea a reality. SUDS is a tax exempt charitable organization that covers all expenses for disabled soldiers who want to learn to dive. All labor and instruction is donated so 100% of collected funds goes directly to supporting the soldiers in the program. We just wanted to highlight this amazing program and let you know that later this year we will organize a fund raiser to help SUDS continue its mission. For now if you'd like to learn more about SUDS, checkout their website at [www.sudsdiving.org](http://www.sudsdiving.org)

**Five Fathoms U/W Park, Tobermory** - September 10 & 11, 2011. Another perennial favorite! Join us on our fall trip to the Georgian Bay to dive shipwrecks laying in the pristine waters around the Bruce Peninsula. Cost: \$385. Includes boat charters Saturday & Sunday, lunch both days and 2 nights lodging (dbl. occupancy)

**Dive & Dine** - September 17, 2011. This will be our final "Dive & Dine" for the 2011 season so come join us at Isle View Park at 1:00 PM for an afternoon drift dive and picnic lunch. As with all of our "Dive & Dine" events there is no fee to attend. Each diver is asked to bring a dish to share and your own beverages and table setting. We provide the grill and meats. Reservations are requested so we can plan accordingly for the food. We hope to see you there.

**Wednesday evening drift dives** - Our weekly Wednesday evening drift dives from Isle View Park are continuing through September 14th. In case you don't know, we host an open dive each Wednesday. The dive is free and we even bring hot dogs for after the dive. There is no charge, but we do ask for a voluntary donation to support the "Ride for Roswell".

**Training Dives** - If you need to complete your open water training dives for scuba certification be sure to call the shop to confirm available dates. We will discontinue local open water training dives by mid October. Let's dive while the water is warm.