

Spring Newsletter 2010

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WATER WORLD / (919) 596-8185

SPECIAL INTEREST ARTICLES:

- * SPRING PARTY & PIG PICKIN!
- * USED EQUIPMENT SALE
- * TRIPS, TRIPS, & MORE TRIPS....
- * TRAVEL INFO
- * STORIES FROM FELLOW DIVERS



INDIVIDUAL HIGHLIGHTS:

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Spring Party & Pig Pickin' time!

It is that time of year once again. The days are getting longer the days are warmer. It is time to mark your calendars for the "Water World & The Bull City Divers" annual Spring Party and Pig Pickin'! Saturday April 10th from 6:30PM until ? here at Water World. We will have live music with the "Durham Jazz Orchestra", a lot of food, drinks, and the chance to get together with your fellow divers and boaters. Time to polish up the stories from last year and listen to a bunch of new ones. This is a favorite

time for our great customers and club members. There will be plenty to eat but if you wanted to bring a side dish or a desert I bet we will eat it! You are not required to bring anything except your family and friends. The registers will be closed but there will be information about our great trips spread throughout the shop. We are here to celebrate the spring and being with all of our friends. So please plan on coming and having fun with your friends here at Water World!



3rd Annual Used Equipment Sale April 10th

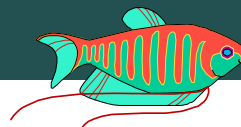
Bull City Divers and Water World are proud to announce the return of the "Used Equipment Sale" here at water World April 10th from 11:00Am until 4:00PM. This is where you can register to sell your old gear here at Water World. There is a registration fee of \$10 and a 10% donation for all goods sold over \$100. This is money that will go to help the Bull City Divers. This is our third year at this and each year it keeps

getting bigger. If you would like to sell your equipment we do ask that you pre-register so that we can make sure we have enough space for everyone. You can pre-register on-line at [Used Equip Pre-registry](#)

After you have sold your gear please stop in the shop to see the specials we have on new gear!



Photo by Wally Diehl



A Note From Our President of BCD – Mike Mantell

The Bull City Divers has continued to make great strides. We are now entering our 3rd year and are looking to add to the great activities for our group. The board has already been hard at work scheduling activities for this year. A list of upcoming events and membership benefits is listed below.

I have had a great time being the president and have been very fortunate to be able to work with a very dedicated board but we still want to hear from the members. This is a club made up of divers for divers so our opinions matter. I look forward to another great year and seeing you at the club's monthly meetings.



ARNIE WEKSLERS
WINNING PICTURE
FOR THE PHOTO
CONTEST



PHOTO BY CINDY BLAIR

Now That's Funny...

How To Fail Your Open Water Test. ☐

- 1- Tell your instructor you will race him to the surface
- 2- Lie face down and motionless while holding your breath
- 3- Loudly proclaim that safety stops are for "wussies". ☐
- 4- Show up with a set of tables based on your own algorithm "that's WAY ☐ better"
- 5- Spit in your wetsuit and pee in your mask
- 6- Ask your instructor, which fin goes on which foot. ☐
- 7- Tell your instructor there is no way you can
Lift a cylinder with 2000 ☐ pounds of air in it
- 8- When asked for your dive plan, you hand over a bundle of travel brochures.

2010 BCD Photo Contest is now open!

The 2009 Photo Contest was a great success. There were over 150 pictures that were entered this year. The voting was done 2 ways, Members Favorites, and we had voting done by a professional photography club from Houston called "HUPS" (Houston Underwater Photography Society). Kandace and Jim Heimer setup the voting guidelines and were able to select pictures from several different categories. The winners were announced at the Annual Banquet held

Upcoming Events

Four social events

- Spring Celebration & Pig Pickin' (April 10, 2010)
- Summer at the Quarry Kick-off the Season Picnic (June 12, 2010)
- Fall Party & Chili Cook-off (October 9, 2010)
- Annual Banquet with Keynote Speaker (January 22, 2011)

Special Events

- A Night at the Quarry
- Annual Used Equipment Sale
- Special Educational Demonstrations featuring special topics, i.e. new equipment (dry suits, cameras/photography, etc.), skills (fish identification, etc.) and more

Membership Benefits

- Annual BCD Photo Contest
- First chance to purchase dive equipment package or travel raffle tickets
- 10% discount on retail purchases at Water World (some exclusions may apply)
- 50% off the cost of Monday through Thursday equipment rentals
- 25% discount on all tank fills
- Free refresher course (based on availability)
- Priority reservations on WaterWorld-sponsored North Carolina offshore charters

Jan 23rd at Parizades of Durham. All members of the Bull City Divers can start submitting their photos as soon as you are ready. We will start posting the entries as soon as we get them. Rules for the contest will be posted on the BCD website soon.

If you are interested in participating in our Photo Contest you must be a member. To join our great little club [click here!](#)



Water World Travel Changes by Warren Sims



Like most businesses these days the economy has pushed us to either change or die. We choose change. With change come new obstacles. And how we work around these obstacles determines success.

Travel is a tough business. WW has been doing this for over 30 years. But the rules have changed. The airlines have made it impossible to get the very best deals unless you are computer savvy. Then there are the resorts themselves. Because of the Internet they now post their prices to the public. A good thing for the consumer. So why set up your trips with your local dive shop? Service. That is the main reason. There is of course the fact that having your LDS (Local Dive Shop) coordinating the

booking we are able to relieve some of the stress affiliated with international travel. We have a lot of experience. And here at Water World there are discounts available that the resorts cannot give you. If you book your private trip with WW you will receive 3% of the cost of your trip as a store credit for future purchases. We can help you select the best travel insurance rates and of course we are there to take care of your gear if it needs servicing.

Water World wants to be your "travel agent" and we plan to be the best at it. Soon we will have a certified agent (me) to handle all of your travel needs. So when you think of travel think of Water World.



PHOTO BY EMILY DENBY

Other Trips in Works.....

- Cozumel
- Deep Blue Utila 2011
- Indonesia
- Galapagos
- Cayman Islands

If you have any suggestions for Group trips or private trips please email me at warren@waterworldinc.com



PADI Rescue Diver by Eric Hawkins

Imagine you and your buddy are diving in Bonaire. At the end of the dive you notice that your buddy is having trouble keeping their head above the surface of the water. As you're talking to them, trying to calm them, they stop moving and appear to not hear you. What do you do? How would you react differently if this dive were a drift dive in Cozumel? What if it was at a local quarry?

Chances are, if you follow established safe diving practices and guidelines, you'll never find yourself in a situation like the one described above. But, there's always a possibility. So, if you did find yourself in this situation, would you know what to do? If your answer is "no", would you like to be able to answer "yes"? If so, then the PADI Rescue Diver course is just what you need.

The Rescue Diver course expands your

knowledge and increases your experience level. You'll learn to look beyond yourself and consider the safety and well being of other divers. You'll cover topics such as self-rescue and diver stress, emergency management, panicked diver response, in-water rescue breathing protocols, egress (exits), and dive accident scenarios.

Although it is a challenging course, it is also a rewarding way to build your confidence. Rescue Diver training will prepare you to prevent problems before they occur and, if necessary, manage dive emergencies. Many divers say this is the best course they've ever taken.

If you're interested in signing-up for a PADI Rescue Diver course, contact Water World for more information and class dates.



PHOTO BY PAUL BONATZ





Anthony's Key, Roatan by Jim Jubelirer

I am sitting in the departure lounge of Roatan Airport thoroughly pleased and thrilled with our stay on Anthony's Key. It only took a total of 45 minutes to get from our hotel lobby to the airport checking in and through immigration and into the departure lounge (Delta Medallion gets to use the first class line, so that shortened the wait. Regular check-in for the Delta non-stop to Atlanta in Saturday looks like a 15-20 minute wait.)

We have over 200 dives under our belt and have been to Cayman, Belize, Bahamas, Turks, St. Lucia, and Costa Rica. I am only mentioning that to say that we have a lot of places to compare to and we are somewhat picky. We had no complaints about our week at AKR whatsoever. Some of the highlights of the trip included:

DIVING

A very efficient operation (11 beautiful boats!). 3 scheduled dives per day, with night dives on Tuesday and Thursday. We did 20

dives in a week and it was never a stress or hassle. Most dive sites are less than 10 minute boat ride from AKR – surface intervals are done back at the dock. Nitrox fills were easy and reliable. Dive sites were interesting and varied. The major complaint is extensive bleaching and algae growth – it really looks like the coral is dying. We had a professor of marine biology on our boat who was checking out the logistics of bringing his students here. He said some of the algae is natural, but I think the bleaching is stressing the coral and it looks worse every year.

LODGING

We were in an air-conditioned superior key room, which is the only way to go. It was really hot (late May in Central America) and the AC was a life saver. The room was beautiful, clean, and spacious. Unit #39 has a deck that is right at the edge of the iron shore with fantastic sun and moonsets.

My Whale of a Dilemma by Warren Sims

I, like a lot of people my age, have a "bucket list". On this list are adventures I really think are "do-able". One is diving with Whale Sharks. There are other things like diving under the ice shelf in Antarctica. I have a couple of options to dive with whale sharks. One is to go to Utila and take my chances; the other is to go to the Georgia Aquarium in Atlanta and for \$355 I can "dive" in a 30-foot tank with a large whale shark.

Utila would run me about \$2000. After doing the math it looked real simple. Go to Atlanta and dive with this bad boy!

Well as it goes I spent the \$2000 and went to Utila. I stayed at a beautiful resort called Deep Blue. This resort was so hidden you had to take a boat to get to it. It is run by a great bunch of people, Steve Fox, his mother Shirley, Nancy, Swin, and others. It was one of the best trips I have ever been on. Utila is of course known for their whale sharks.

We went in late Feb, really the earliest you might see the whale sharks. Not peak season. That would cost me \$2800. So with hopes of seeing a whale shark off we went.

Here is my dilemma. Our great dive club, "the Bull City Divers" is planning on going to the Georgia Aquarium soon to dive with the whale sharks. But after spending a week with the great people at Deep Blue, it was brought to my attention that the whale sharks held in captive at the aquarium is killing them. I was given many examples as to why it is bad to put these animals on display this way. One is that the whale shark needs to be able to dive 2000 to 3000 feet many times a day in order to stay healthy. You cannot do that in a 30-foot tank.

So now you see my dilemma. In order to be a "caretaker" for the ocean I cannot give money to an organization that is possibly "killing" these whale sharks. But at the same time I understand that we can learn a lot about these magnificent creatures. So is it wrong to do that? It does not matter as another whale shark being held in captive at that Aquarium has died. They do not know why. I think I can guess.

On a positive note, I was able to swim with whale sharks while I was in Utila. One more off the bucket list!



PHOTO BY PAT REARDON



WHALE SHARK IN
UTILA





Diving Adventures with Pete Buzzacott

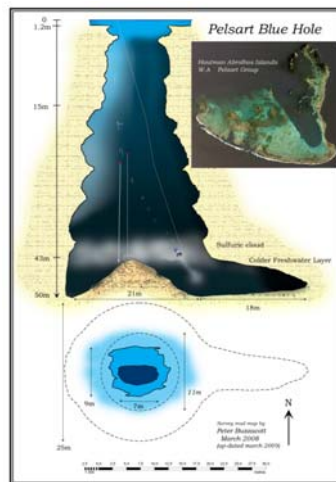
Life's pretty cool now I'm home - been doing a lot of cave-diving in the last year and have started working out if it's possible for me to swim to an air chamber 2-miles up inside a cave. Did some 100-yard laps a couple of weeks ago with six tanks and worked out how much air I'd need and how long it would take. Next I'll do a couple of stamina dives about a mile and a half long to see if I'm still up to it, but I'm in good shape these days, been going to the gym a lot, eating well (Barramundi tonight - it's Australia's best fish). I'll probably need to stage four tanks along the way and on the big day start off with six and swap four of them for full ones

along the way. Anyway, just an idea at this stage.

As luck would have it I'm planning to come back to NC for a brief visit next April. DAN is holding a diving fatalities workshop over there and I'm planning to come and talk about the Australian diving deaths, and what we're doing about it. I'm really hoping to come via Bolivia and make a couple of high altitude dives in Lake Titicaca on the way - and maybe even dive a cave or two in Brazil, but my wife and I are still working out the details and money and stuff. I'm still a full-time student and my car is broken.



PHOTO BY MIKE MANTELL



PAUL HAVING FUN!

Bloody Bay Wall by Kim Perry

In May we dove Bloody Bay Wall in Little Cayman and had the BEST dive trip ever! We stayed with Little Cayman Beach Resort and had a beautiful ocean front room that was well worth the extra cost. The resort updated and remodeled last fall and the rooms are all beautifully furnished and extremely comfortable. Waking up every morning and looking out the door to see the sunrise over the dock and the palm trees was fantastic. The food was very good also, had we not been to their sister resort, Cayman Brac Beach Resort, I would have thought this the best eating on any dive trip. A large variety and upscale dishes were available everyday in addition to any special requests. Personally, mid week I had a craving for a regular grilled cheese sandwich and that hit the spot after so much diving!

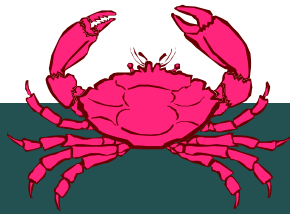
The dive shop and boats were in great shape and the dive staffs, Alex and Sharon, were informative, professional, extremely competent and fun. We were fortunate to have great weather, great friends and stellar diving the entire week of our vacation. There was not one dive that was disappointing, and we dove three times a day. The amount of underwater life we saw surpassed any other trip we've taken and add to that the brilliant colors of the coral, plant life and the great visibility add up to the place you should vacation next.

The Mixing Bowl and The Meadows were two of the best dive sites we visited. There are several large grouper who live within these and are similar to puppies in that they swim next to and near the divers and enjoy being petted and touched. The grouper actually seek out contact with the divers and are really great entertainment during the dive. On this trip we saw our very first and only lion fish, the number of turtles is unbelievable as we saw at least one turtle every single dive and the moray eels were swimming out in the open water, something I had never seen before. The southern stingrays feeding on the bottom of the ocean floor are interesting to watch and we got video of quite a few spotted eagle rays also!

It was an incredible week of diving and when we were on our very last dive we found a nurse shark laying on the sand that we were able to capture on video. When you combine all that we saw with the phenomenal beauty of the sheerness of the wall itself against the vast blue water, Bloody Bay Wall and Little Cayman Beach Resort are a must do!!



PHOTO BY PAT REARDON



N. Carolina Diving is a Big Animal Experience by Capt James

My son recently returned from Roatan. He did a Divemaster internship with Subway Watersports on the small island off the coast of Honduras. It is a pretty good racket, he paid them to work on the boats and in the dive shop for six weeks while he trained to be a dive master.

He is going to first mate for me this season aboard Tortuga, my dive boat based on Piver's Island between Morehead City and Beaufort. On Roatan, his divemaster duties were far different than what will be expected of him here in North Carolina, but the experience was a valuable one as he enters the world of being a dive professional.

He described his experience, especially the part about guiding dives, he said that the divers were most interested in studying a small section of the reef, taking a macro look at the small animals in and around the brightly colored coral, sun bathed in light at a depth of 40' of gin clear water.

"What about big animals? Is there any large marine life?" I asked. He shook his head no, explaining the reef is so close to the island, the local fisherman had pretty much decimated the stocks of the larger edible fishes.

Remembering my dive on the Naeco last week, a wreck 38 miles from the Beaufort inlet in 140' of water, I just shook my head and said "Son, you know it is going to be much different here, we dive with very big animals in North Carolina." He acknowledged he knew that, after all he does have nearly 100 dives off our coast.

Last week, as I descended the anchor line down to the stern of the Naeco, I could not see the forest for the trees. At 60 feet, a very

large leatherback turtle swimming in broad circles mingled inside a huge school of 20-40 pound jacks. At a depth of 80' I could make out the shape of the wreck and the scores of Sand Tiger sharks lazily milling around it. Some of these sharks were honestly 10 feet long and several feet in girth. Two large southern stingrays with a wing span of 8 feet or so "flew" away from the sand as I neared the bottom. The wreck is covered in the huge Amberjacks, and they are not bashful about swimming within a foot of your mask and circling you in a sort of cyclone of fish. Mixed in with the jacks are large grouper, blacks, gags and the smaller scamps.

I didn't venture too far from the anchor line, I barely made note of anything on the wreck. I couldn't believe the scope and size of the marine life that was all around me. It was truly incredible. They seemed to follow me all the way to the hangline on my ascent. I even saw a pack of marauding Dusky sharks about mid way in the water column.

It is early in the season, and the water was a brisk 65 degrees, but it is hard to believe that just off our coast is some of the most prolific experience of diving with large animals in the world. Unlike areas where "handlers" entice marine life into an area with food, In North Carolina, we simply jump in and dive in "their world".

Save Diving,
Captain James
www.tortugacharters.net

CAPTAIN JAMES ROSEMOND RUNS THE DIVE BOAT TORTUGA BASED IN MOREHEAD CITY, NC AND A FREE LANCE WRITER AND AUTHOR.

Water World Class Schedule 2010

Open Water (academics & pool)

Jan. 6, 9-10 & 16-17 (weekend, TBD)
Feb. 13, 20-21 (weekend eLearning, TBD)
March 10, 13-14 & 20-21 (weekend, TBD)
April 10, 12, 14, 19, 21, 26 & 28 (Mon/Wed, TBD)
May 5, 8-9 & 15-16 (weekend, TBD)-A
June 12, 15, 17, 22, 24, 29 & July 1 (Tue/Thur, TBD)-B
July 13, 17-18 & 24-25 (weekend, TBD)-C
Aug. 7, 9, 11, 16, 18, 23 & 25 (Mon/Wed, TBD)-D
Sept. 21, 25-26 & Oct. 2-3 (weekend, TBD)-E
Oct. 23-24 & 30 (weekend eLearning, TBD)
Nov. 13, 16, 18, 23, 30, Dec. 2 & 7 (Tue/Thur. TBD)

AOW

June 16, 19, 26-27
July 7, 10, 17-18
Aug. 18, 21, 28-29
Sept. 15, 18, 25-26

OW Quarry Dives

May 20, 22-23 (2 groups)-A
June 10, 12-13
July 8, 10-11-B
Aug. 19, 21-22-C
Sept. 16, 18-19-D
Oct. 14, 16-17-E

Nitrox (June-Spet. in conjunction w/AOW)

March 24 & 31
June 16 & 23
July 7 & 14
Aug 18 & 25
Sept. 15 & 22

Rescue

June 19, 26-27
Aug. 14, 21-22

EFR

Apr. 17-18
June 5-6
July 31-Aug 1



PHOTO BY EMILY DENBY

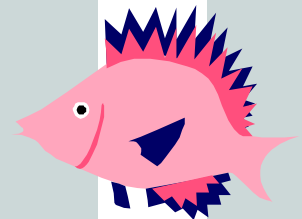


PHOTO BY ARNIE WEKSLER





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SALE! SALE! SALE! SALE! THIS THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY

Starting this Thursday / Friday / Saturday Water World will be having a big sale to kick-off the season. Check out the prices on Regulators, BCD's, Dive computers, and other SCUBA equipment.

Mares Regs

V32 Proton Metal w/Proton Metal octo
retail: \$775
sale: **\$615**

Mares X-Vision, X-Vision Mid and Pure Vision masks

retail: \$80
sale: **\$45**

V42 Proton Metal w/Proton octo
retail: \$730
sale: **\$565**

Mares Quattro fins

retail: \$139
sale: **\$99**

AquaLung Titan reg

retail: \$330
sale: **\$199**
add an octo for \$90

Closeout Wetsuits

20%-50% off



Suunto Gekko wrist computer

retail: \$325
sale: **\$250**

Pinnacle ME 3mm wetsuit

retail: \$395
sale: **\$295**



PHOTO BY MIKE MANTELL

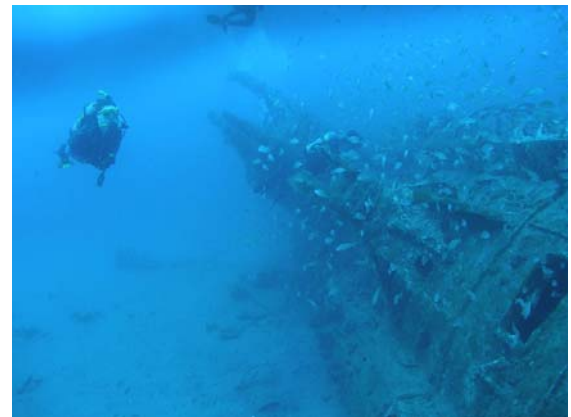


PHOTO BY MIKE MULLER

WATER WORLD
135 S. MIAMI BLVD
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where the FUN never sets!

All through this newsletter you will see pictures from some of our contestants in the Annual Photo Contest. If you would like to see more please [click here](#) to go to the Bull City Divers photo gallery.

If you would like to contribute to future newsletters please submit your article to warren@waterworldinc.com