

North Current



Monthly Newsletter of the Aquatic Explorers Scuba Club Inc.
P.O. Box 180, Connelly, NY 12417
Marsh Scuba Supply
93 Lauer Rd, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

March , 2009

WWW.AQUATICEXPLORERS.ORG
WWW.MARSHSCUBA.COM

Next Meeting

Canoe Race Committee Meeting

April 6, 2009 @ 7:00 PM

Board Meeting

April 6, 2009 @ 7:30 PM

Club Meeting

April 6, 2009 @ 8:00 PM



Anyone going on a trip soon?

Upcoming Events

April 11 & 18

Creek Cleanup

April 25

Wappingers Creek Water Derby

May 4

VIPs

June 6-7

Dutch Springs

It's Your Newsletter

Members are invited to submit articles about dive trips, locations, events, equipment, opinions etc. Your contributions can make reading the newsletter more interesting for everyone. Send in trip reports and other interesting tid-bits for the newsletter. How about a photo of the month?

Dues are Due

Dues are now being collected. Payment must be submitted by the April (since the March meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather) meeting to avoid penalties. Remember, like the commercial says, "**Membership has it's privileges!**".

2009 Wappinger Creek Water Derby

Organization meetings began in January. The Race is scheduled for April 25 with creek cleanup the weeks leading up to race day. Remember, many hands make the load light. We need your help in planning and executing the tasks leading up to and including the race. The proceeds from this event keep our dues below the actual cost of running the club, allows us to keep a class A air shed going and helps subsidize assorted club events. From a community service perspective, we help raise awareness of the Wappingers Creek and many families look forward to this top notch race. Please pitch in in whatever way you can.



2009 Club Officers

President	Keith Doland	(914)739-0523	scubanut3@optonline.net
Vice President	Mary Vogel	(845)485-3029	mevog1225@optonline.net
Treasurer	Patrick Bennett	(845)331-6068	TheBennetts@hvc.rr.com
Secretary	Richard Huff	(845) 728-0220	rich547@optonline.net
Member at Large	Jim McCann	(845)778-5684	Jimsara@frontiernet.net
Member at Large	TBA		
Newsletter	Paul Souleotis	(845)691-6645	psouleotis@optonline.net
Air Shed	Dick Tambini	(845)454-0210	rtambini@earthlink.net
Activities	Andy Viviano	(845)462-8322	marshscuba@optonline.net
Entertainment			
Membership	Faith & Forrest Cousins	(845)473-3803	fcousens@hvc.rr.com

O2 and First Aid Kits

Contact Dick Tambini to arrange to borrow the oxygen system and or the first aid kit for use on a dive trip. Club dives have priority over personal dives. All requests for use must be made at least a week in advance. Dick can be reached at 454-0210. If you have used the O2 unit or any supplies from the O2 kit or the first aid kit, please tell Dick when returned. This way we can refill the tank or replace used supplies to assure a complete kit for the next borrower.

Meetings

Please make every effort to attend the monthly meetings.

Our Entertainment chair has planned a program each month to entertain and / or educate.

Each month will have a feature program, and a full house is a great way to show our appreciation.

After the meeting, please, don't forget to pick up any litter and return the tables and chairs to where they were.

Club Jackets & Dive Flag Stickers

To order your embroidered club jacket or custom dive flag decals contact Faith Cousins at Fcousens@hvc.rr.com to place your order or for additional details.

USS San Diego

Armored Cruiser 6 was originally named the USS California, the ship that would later be renamed to the USS San Diego. She was built for the United States Navy by the Union Iron Works of San Francisco, California. This shipyard also built the USS Olympia almost ten years before. The Olympia is available for tours at its Philadelphia, Pennsylvania dock. The hull of the ACR6 was launched April 28, 1904 almost two years after the keel was laid. It was 503 feet long and had a beam of almost 70 feet. The ship weighed about 15,000 tons fully outfitted and loaded for duty. Two eighteen foot diameter propellers were driven by two steam powered engines. These four cylinder engines were supplied steam by sixteen boilers. These engines could produce 25,000 horse power.

ACR6 was commissioned into the United States Navy on August 1, 1907 as the USS California. In addition to two torpedo tubes, she carried four 8-inch, fourteen 6-inch, and eighteen 3-inch guns.

She operated in the Pacific Ocean, visiting many ports including the Philippines, China, Japan, Hawaii, Peru, and Guam. In January of 1911, she is designated the flagship of the Pacific fleet. On September 1, 1914, the ship is renamed the USS San Diego. This was done as a result of a new policy of naming battleships after states. Shortly after, a boiler explosion kills nine crewman during a full speed run in the Gulf of California.

The USS San Diego left the water of the Pacific Ocean and entered the Atlantic Ocean via the Panama Canal for the first time during July 1917. She served in the Atlantic as a convoy escort, at one time stopping at the port in La Croisie, France. After removal of some of her 6-inch guns in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, the San Diego steams to New York to meet up with a transatlantic convoy. At 11:05 a.m. most the crew of the San Diego felt a dull thud which originated from the port side engine room. The crew that worked in this area must have experienced a large explosion as bulkheads were smashed in. The ocean soon followed and within 20 minutes the USS San Diego gently rolled over and was gone, along with six of her crew. It is amazing that 1,177 of the ship's crew and officers were able to abandon ship in a such a short time.

The German submarine U.156 is credited with sinking the USS San Diego. The submarine laid mines in the area where the cruiser was lost. Unfortunately we will never know the details of the U.156 operations, as the submarine was sunk on her return voyage after entering a mine field.

The USS San Diego today lies upside down about eleven miles southeast of Fire Island inlet, Long Island, New York at Loran 26543.4 43693.2 in 115 feet of sea water.

The weight of the massive armor belt along with the hull and it's contents crushed the superstructure into the sand soon after she sank. The hull is relatively intact, its keel is at seventy feet and the sand is at around 115 feet. The ship rests upside down with a list to the port side. This angle allows more light on the starboard side, which commonly called 'the light side'. The port side is called 'the dark side' because of the shadow in which it resides. The sand line is higher on this side because of the list. The stern has started to collapse, but the propeller shafts, which are the diameter of 55 gallon drums, hang out into space at the seventy foot mark. The propellers were removed in the early sixties, however one was lost while on its way to Staten Island, New York. A bilge keel on each side on the hull runs a good length of the ship. These were attached to give the ship stability. They now give divers a line of reference for navigating the wreck. Along 'the light side', the 3-inch guns can be found sticking out from their mounts in the hull.

Many holes exist at various locations around the hull. These can give advanced divers the opportunity to investigate the San Diego's dark interior. The inside doesn't resemble a ship, but rather a junk yard of collapsed machinery, bulkheads, and ship stores. Penetration of the wreck requires special skills and equipment. Hallways and rooms ranging in size from small to very large can quickly silt out, reducing visibility to zero. Six divers have died on this wreck. It is the most popular dive site in New England, attracting hundreds of divers every year. The US Navy has a policy for removing artifacts from sunken aircraft and shipwrecks.

2009 Diving & Event Calendar

January 5

Photo Contest at the regular scheduled meeting. Please Submit 2 - 8" x 10" photos

March 27-29

Beneath the Sea Meadowlands Expo Center, Secaucus, New Jersey
See Beneaththesea.org , call Jim McCann (845)-778-5684 or Email to jimsara@frontiernet.net

April 11

Wappingers Creek Clean up Date, Meet at Air Shed 8:00 am
For Info call Chet Bodley at (845)-635-8524 Or Email to chet76@nycomco.com

April 18-25

Cozumel
For info see Marsh Scuba , call (845)452-8994 Or Email to marshscuba@optonline.net

April 18

Wappingers Creek Clean up Date, Meet at Air Shed 8:00 am
For Info call Chet Bodley at (845)-635-8524 Or Email to chet76@nycomco.com

April 25

Wappingers Creek Water Derby, Pleasant Valley, NY
Race Application Call Sandy Sanborn at (845)-635-3463 or Email to thebennetts@hvc.rr.com

May 4

Visual Tank Inspections to be done at regular meeting. Please empty your tanks prior to meeting

Early May TBA

Aquarium Dive

June 6 & 7

Dutch Springs Diving Bethlehem Pa.
For info see Marsh Scuba , call (845)452-8994 Or Email to marshscuba@optonline.net

June 12 - 14

Dive the St. Lawrence River Alexandria Bay NY
For info see Marsh Scuba , call (845)452-8994 Or Email to marshscuba@optonline.net

June 12 - 14

NYSDA Convention Clayton , NY
For Info Call Paul Cornell (518)-725-7076 Or Email at pllenroc@frontiernet.net

June 20 & 21

Dutch Springs Diving Bethlehem Pa.
For info see Marsh Scuba , call (845)452-8994 Or Email to marshscuba@optonline.net

July 18 & 19

Dutch Springs Diving Bethlehem Pa.
For info see Marsh Scuba , call (845)452-8994 Or Email to marshscuba@optonline.net

July 20 - 26

Valcour Island Camping and Diving Peru , NY
For Info Call Pat Bennett (845)-331-6068 or Email to thebennetts@hvc.rr.com

July 24 - 26

Dive the St. Lawrence River Alexandria Bay NY
For info see Marsh Scuba , call (845)452-8994 Or Email to marshscuba@optonline.net

August 21 - 23

Dive the St. Lawrence River Alexandria Bay NY
For info see Marsh Scuba , call (845)452-8994 Or Email to marshscuba@optonline.net

August 29 & 30

Dutch Springs Diving Bethlehem Pa.
For info see Marsh Scuba , call (845)452-8994 Or Email to marshscuba@optonline.net

September 10—13

Rogers Rock Weekend Hosted by Albany Aquanauts Lake George,
For Info Call Pat Bennett at (845)-331-6068 or Email to thebennetts@hvc.rr.com

September 19-20

Dive the St. Lawrence River - 1,000 Islands NY
For info see Marsh Scuba , call (845)452-8994 Or Email to marshscuba@optonline.net

September 26

Aquatic Explorers Annual Club Clam Bake
Freedom Park

October 3rd & 4

Diving Saturday Night Ledge, Cape Ann, MA
For info see Marsh Scuba , call (845)452-8994 Or Email to marshscuba@optonline.net

October 9-12

End It All Weekend St Lawrence Clayton, NY
For Info Call Jim McCann at (845)-778-5684 or Email to jimsara@frontiernet.net

November TBA

Caribbean Trip

December 7

Aquatic Explorers Holiday Spaghetti Diner

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Contact a board member to place your add here.

