

# 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

September , 2009

WWW.AQUATICEXPLORERS.ORG  
WWW.MARSHSCUBA.COM

## Next Meeting

Board Meeting

October 5, 2009 @ 7:30 PM

Club Meeting

October 5, 2009 @ 8:00 PM

Meetings are held at the American Legion Post on Overlook Rd.



Found at Curacao

## DIVER REWARDS

Refer a new diver for Open Water Certification to Marsh Scuba and receive a \$25.00 gift certificate towards equipment purchases.

## Our Calendar

Our calendar is available in both a file format and a graphic/printable format on our Yahoo Users Group.

[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AquaticExplorers\\_group/cal](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AquaticExplorers_group/cal)

## Upcoming Events

- October 3-4 Cape Anne, MA
- October 9-12 NYSDA End it All Weekend
- Oct 31- Nov 7 Curacao
- December 7 Holiday Dinner & Elections

## 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?

## We Have a Yahoo Group

What does that mean? It means people can search for dive clubs in Dutchess County and find us. It has a file section where the newsletter can be found as well as other special notices. It has a calendar which can be updated as soon as we have additions or changes. Rather than getting a monthly newsletter in your email from me directly, the Yahoo group software will notify you and supply a link to the newsletter or any other notice or bulletin posted on the board. There is a message board open to all group members. I can go on and on. Sign up and get familiar with the features. **I have just learned that if you have not subscribed to the group, but were added directly by me, you do not have full access to the features. Please subscribe ASAP, we are going to discontinue direct emails and want you to have a seamless changeover.**

**To sign up, just follow this link:**

**[http://groups.yahoo.com/subscribe/AquaticExplorers\\_group](http://groups.yahoo.com/subscribe/AquaticExplorers_group)**

## Club Jackets & Dive Flag Stickers

To order your embroidered club jacket or custom dive flag decals contact Faith Cousens at [Fcousens@hvc.rr.com](mailto:Fcousens@hvc.rr.com) to place your order or for additional details.

## 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.

### New Members

A big welcome to new members:

Phil Fortuna  
Pete Hauson  
Joseph Rinaldi

### Dutch Springs

Dutch Springs is pre-selling their 2010 individual season passes for \$185



### Poseidon's Automatic Rebreather

Product Description:

The diving is simple. Open the tank valves, wet the switch on the back of the display, wait for the systems check and off you go. Forget about everything you ever heard about PO2, scrubber life and oxygen cells. Our system will handle all that. Just remember to breathe.



### Clambake/Picnic

Glad to hear Keith was up to going to the Clambake. Here is Keith's take on the day:

We had a good turnout for the clam bake about 50 people showed up and there was plenty of food and drink for everyone, the weather held out and the sun was there. There was horseshoe playing and the kids entertained themselves with the playground. Food was cooked and eaten with no problems and the clams were great.

## PHOTO CONTEST

The club will once again be holding its annual photo contest.

There will be 2 categories, best Salt water photo and best fresh water photo.

The prizes in each category are:

First place - \$50.00 from the Aquatic Explorers Scuba Club

Second place – DAN Annual Membership donated by Marsh Scuba.

Entries must be printed on at least 5 X7 paper and taken during the 2009 calendar year.

Members are limited to 2 entries total (one in each, or two in one category).

The judging and awards will be at the regularly scheduled January meeting.

Start collecting those images and best of luck to all!

## **Is this what 'organized diving' can do? We hope so.....**

Introduction: A letter was written by Orbit Marine President, Capt Noel Voroba from Connecticut, to the "Dive Industry", stating the current state of affairs that is affecting local dive businesses in a detrimental way. This letter was distributed online to various dive entities including Beneath the Sea. Email responses resulted in various ideas being floated to help resolve the issue of the "industry" being viewed as not supporting local dive activity. Our Treasurer, Ray Tucker, penned a response dealing with the problem of some shops not being responsive to local divers. Bill Hammond, NYSDA PR Chair, then wrote the following idea about WE, THE DIVERS, taking more direct action to change the paradigm.

### **WE, THE DIVERS. IT IS OUR SPORT.**

Hi all - Great thread of issues here, and I thank Zig (BTS) for passing on Noel's summary of his shop issues. As the overall economy tanks (for a hopefully brief period), the dive industry will also take a proportionally larger hit as well. Maybe this is the 'dive alert' that we and the industry needs! I'll continue to say 'we', as I feel I am part of the industry and the sport, since I have contributed \$\$ and participated at various levels in it for over 45 years now. Yeah, yeah, it's all about me!! No, the point of mentioning the 45 years is to rehash how different the 'sport' was then, and what diving meant to the 'participants'. I recently related a bit of this in my memorial to Dick Zielinski who died this summer. (See the Sept issue of NYSDA'S Divers Digest). Back in 'the day', as in the early '60s, clubs were in, and DickZ played an active and important role in a number of local clubs in his central NY area. Most of you only knew of him from his role at BTS for 7 or 8 years. The point I want to make is HE played a role in his local area, and WE (collectively, the sport divers of our own areas) need to do the same thing now. WE need to visit our shops not just as customers, but as partners in our sport and industry. At the 2010 BTS show, each council should have special materials promoting this 'partnership' concept and encourage all members and potential members to start playing an active role in OUR SPORT, as the first step in reviving it. WE have to do it, as the industry won't. I'm not saying this as a negative. It's a fact of life. It's our sport! The sport started with divers and then the clubs and shops came into being, and then it became 'the industry'. WE need to go to our local shop and state our case about their and our future, in OUR SPORT. If this happened all across the country, I think 'the industry' might see us for what we are.....'the sport', and their lifeblood.

Carol Rose (Underwater Society of America) mentions below that the specialty groups are holding their own or growing. This is because those folks are especially interested in their 'niche' and doing what it takes to help it grow. The same as we did long ago to grow the sport in general. Now WE have to show this interest in the overall sport again to get it through this period. In doing so, 'the industry' should take note and that will help insure a more stable future for us all.

Those of you with access to 'the industry' might consider passing all this on to someone there who may have the interest to take it seriously. We need an interested 'partner' at that level to start this partnership concept from the top down, while WE start it from the bottom up! Could be a 'win-win' in it for us and OUR SPORT!

I included Andy Viviano, owner of Marsh Scuba in the Poughkeepsie, NY area in the 'To' line above, as I encourage him to comment on the status of the special 'partnership' arrangement Marsh Scuba and the Aquatic Explorers Diving Club created about 2 years ago. That is my local club. I believe it has been a win-win for both. It could be a model for other areas. It definitely shatters the old shop 'diver ownership' issue Ray Tucker mentions below. Obviously, that is the first barrier we need to change.

Some of you may know me as 'soggy snorkel', but probably only one or two understand the moniker. It was my sign off and byline for my column in the Divers Digest when I was editor in the '80s. KEEP YOUR SNORKEL SOGGY. KEEP DIVING. KEEP WET!.....was and still is the best advice I can give to old and new divers alike. Let's take this message to 'the industry' - at the bottom and the top. Maybe we can actually bring back some of the old-time feeling of this sport being not just 'recreation', but an adventure again.

Thanks for your time.

Soggy Snorkels!

Bill Hammond, NYSDA PR Chair, 845-758-6981, 914-475-2746 (cell), [soggysnorkel@gmail.com](mailto:soggysnorkel@gmail.com), visit [www.scubany.org](http://www.scubany.org)

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