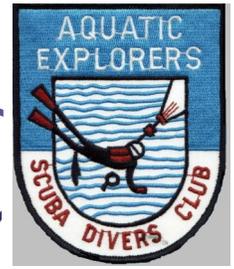


North Current



Monthly Newsletter of the Aquatic Explorers Scuba Club Inc.
P.O. Box 180, Connelly, NY 12417

July 2012

www.aquaticexplorers.org

Next Meeting

Club Meeting

July 9th 2012 @ 7:30 PM

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

Board Meeting

June 25th 2012 @ 7:30 PM

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



Website Suggestions

We'd like to expand the services available to members on our website. If you have any suggestions regarding what you'd like to see on the website please forward them to suggestions@aquaticexplorers.org, with a subject line of 'website suggestions'. Some of the things under consideration are; dive blog, dive buddy search, activity forums, etc.

Club Dives

We'd like to encourage more club based dives. The more things we do as a club, the better we will be as a club. Please keep checking in here and on the website in the future to see what dives we've scheduled as a group. If you have any suggestions for club dives, please send an email to suggestions@aquaticexplorers.org. Be sure to include the words 'club dive suggestions' in the subject line.

Upcoming Events

July 7th

NYSDA Sacandaga Lake Dive

July 14th

TSSC LI Sound Lobster Pot cleanup

For updates and the full club event calendar visit the club web site at <http://www.aquaticexplorers.org/calendar.htm>

Help the Newsletter!

The newsletter is a tool for members to communicate with other members discussing places to dive, providing information about new products, and discussing other topics of interest. It is a great forum to provide valuable information to club members.

Please help us keep the newsletter interesting and valuable to members. Your contributions can make reading the newsletter more interesting for everyone. Send submissions to newsletter@aquaticexplorers.org.

If Microsoft made dive gear...

- Useless tips would show up on your dive computer every time you turn it on.
- None of your new gear would be compatible with any of your old stuff.
- When you called Microsoft to schedule a dive trip, you would be left on hold for a long time, and when you finally talked to someone you would be given a lot of information on diving that was absolutely correct but completely useless.
- Every dive computer would be from Microsoft and any deaths from them would be explained as a "beta version" problem. Don't worry, we'll fix that in the next release.
- Every time you were really close to your destination, your boat would crash.
- Your air supply would stop and have to be restarted every couple of minutes and you would accept this as normal.

Area Dives

The club is encouraging members to take part in some of the dives that are being sponsored by local groups and dive shops.

This month, we are highlighting night dives that are being sponsored by Captain Mikes Dive Shop on City Island, New York. These dives go out of City Island every Wednesday and Thursday evening, and cover the Long Island Sound and Atlantic Ocean. Take a look [here](#) for more information, or call the dive shop at (718) 885-1588.

Club Associations

As a club, we are looking to increase our visibility, and, by extension, the types of services that we can offer to the membership.

To that end, we are looking to add professional and trade associations to the portfolio of services we offer the membership.

If you have any thoughts on either services that you would like to see offered to the membership, or suggestions of organizations or entities that you would like to see the club partner with, please send an email to suggestions@aquaticexplorers.org. Be sure to add the word 'suggestions' to the subject line.

Trading Post

Dive Flag Stickers

Anyone interested in Dive Flag Stickers, please contact Faith Cousens via email fcousens@hvc.rr.com. The cost is \$25 for 10 stickers and are great for dive tanks, log books, and even your car!

Advertise your items for sale/trade here.

If you have any goods or services that you'd like to advertise to the club membership, you can do so here. Please restrict the goods or services advertised to those related to scuba diving.

** Aquatic Explorers, Inc. makes no warranty as to the quality of the goods or services listed here. It is understood that anyone advertising here, or acquiring items here will hold the club harmless in the event of any issues related to the sale or use of items listed here.**

Membership Drive

We're always looking to add members to our roles. The most effective way to advertise our club, and what we do is through 'word of mouth'.

We encourage all of our members to talk about the group and what we do to friends, family, people you meet on dives, etc.

Moving forward we'll be talking about ways to encourage our members to bring new potential members into the group. If you have any thoughts or suggestions on this, please send us an email at suggestions@aquaticexplorers.org. Please be sure to place the words 'membership drive' in the subject line.



Dive Journals (TSSC Beach Cleanup)

Carlos Caunedo Jr.

On Sunday May 20th a few of our members and I were fortunate to have participated in this great event and do some diving together that that was rewarding in several ways. The Scuba Sports Club of Westchester hosted the event and invited us to join them. This was the third year of this event and according to them, the most successful to date. I hope that we, as a club, continue to support this cause and make it a yearly trip that we can add to our expanding Calendar of events.

Members present were, Bobby Cruz, Bob Bak, (who, incidentally is an extremely active member of both clubs), Bob and Maureen Kverek with their 2 kids, Phil Sylvester and myself. Out of 33 divers that participated in the event, four of the divers were from our club! I think this is outstanding. Additionally, over 120 people participated by being "beachcombers" who collected trash from all the surrounding areas.

(Continued on Page 4)

2012 Club Officers

President	Joe Rinaldi	(845) 677-6683	ishoal@gmail.com
Vice President	Carlos Caunedo Jr.	(917) 658-7098	cc.harley@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Bob Bak	(845) 721-2605	rbakdive@aol.com
Secretary	TBD	TBD	TBD
Member at Large	Rich Tambini	(845) 454-0210	rtambini@earthlink.net
Member at Large	Marshall Breite	(914) 475-1054	marshvet@aol.com
Newsletter	Mike Rodriques	(914) 548-5646	mrodriques@gmail.com
Air Shed	Mark Habinowski	(845) 391-7700	macheezmo37@aim.com
Entertainment	TBD	TBD	TBD
Activities	TBD	TBD	TBD
Membership	Mike Waters	(845) 224-6832	mwaters@jimwaters.com

Board Changes/Vacancies

We would like to thank all of the members that have either served, or continue to serve, on the board. Your efforts to make this club a better environment for the membership do not go unrecognized, or unappreciated.

We hope to present the membership with more opportunities to enjoy the club moving forward. We'd like to do this through club sponsored dives and activities, such as the upcoming trips to Dutch Springs, and the club sponsored Clam Bake and Swap meet.

There are still some positions available on the board. We welcome any members who would like to help by filling these positions.

If you're interested in helping, contact any board member to discuss your participation.

Club Hours

We are also looking for people to send dive journals for trips taken for the web site. Dive journals help members learn about new dive locations and provide insights about where to stay, eat and dive. You can earn time toward your work hours for each dive journal you submit. Send your dive journals to Mike Rodriques at mrodriques@gmail.com.

Air Shed Maintenance

We just got a new test report for the air shed. As of 6/8/2012 air shed Chair Mark Habinowski has had the air shed tested and it passed. Thanks to Mark for his hard work in bringing the air shed up to spec. This is a valuable asset to the club, and a great service being provided to the membership. To view a copy of the report, click [here](#).

Your ideas are welcome!

If you have any ideas for dives, or activities that you'd like to see the club pursue, please contact any board member to discuss them. We are always looking for ways to present more activities or group dives for the club membership to enjoy. If you'd like to submit ideas for activities, you can do so via email to activities@aquaticexplorers.org.

Dive Journals (TSSC Beach Cleanup) Continued

I feel a little guilty for kidnapping one of our members, Phil Sylvester. I knew who he was, and had previously spoken to him only briefly. As they say “A funny thing happened”. Saturday, before this event, Phil posted on our Facebook page asking if anyone wanted to dive at Dutch the next day. I had previously been trying to get people to participate via email but I saw a new opportunity with Phil. I immediately grabbed my member list and called Phil at home. I left a message on his machine saying only that it was Carlos from the club and I wanted to speak with him about diving on Sunday. A while later I received a call back from Phil. It went something like this, “Hey Phil, you can’t go diving at Dutch tomorrow” “OK.....why?” he replied in an unsure tone. “Because, you and I are diving someplace else instead” I then went on to tell him that I would pick him up in the morning to go diving at Orchard Beach instead. After a few seconds he said OK and we finalized our plans. Sorry, and Thanks Phil!

The day itself was absolutely beautiful with temps in the low 80’s and bright and sunny. Phil and I arrived relatively early and were diver’s numbers 13 and 14 to register, so we won free passes to Beneath the Sea for next year. Nice! Then we got ready to dive. The water temp was about 55 and air temp close to 80. After a long walk across the beach we entered the water. For me it was, a new experience as it was my first dive with doubles. As it turned, I love them and will be diving doubles regularly. We were after garbage, so off we went, goody bags in tow. Immediately it was evident that visibility was..... Non-existent, 12 to 18 inches. We were diving by feeling the bottom with our hands. A little over 3 ft. away, I could barely make out Phil’s shadow and Yellow tank. Interestingly enough, we collected plenty of garbage as beer cans, plastic, rope and other items stood out against the gray bottom. Adding to the excitement was reaching down to touch a manhole cover sized rock 18 inches from your face only to have it be a huge Horseshoe crab, that then scurried away. That gets your heart pumping.

Second dive was more of the same, only swimming out a bit further from shore using our compasses. Overall, Phil and I were able to collect a respectable amount of trash and practice our low visibility diving skills. Afterwards, we packed up the gear and headed over to the Clam Bake for lunch. We spent a while eating great food and talking to various divers and participants from many of the local dive clubs and nearby dive operations. Weekly night dives out of City Island are a nice local option for diving. Hint, Hint let’s go! Prizes were given out for most garbage as well as raffles and other giveaways. Now that I’m mentioning it, Hey Bob, Phil and I still would like our XL t-shirts!

I had a great time and a very rewarding experience with fellow members of our Club. I can only speak for myself, but I feel that Phil and I had a great time as we got along well, laughed, dove together and parted as closer friends. I want to extend my personal Thanks to TSSC for the invite and hope they let us know the date for next year, as we will be sure to put it on our club calendar.

Thanks

Carlos Caunedo Jr.

Have you done any diving this month??

Let us all know how it was, here. Send us an [email](#) telling us the where, when and details of the dive. Did you like it, or not? Send us some pictures if you have them. We’ll post the article here, and credit you for the contribution.