

Journal Entry of an Open Water Diver

Mon. June 9, 2008-Arriving in the Bahamas yesterday afternoon & seeing how beautiful the islands are, I was eagerly anticipating my 2 dives off of New Providence Island near Nassau. Having just 5 dives under my belt and only being certified 9 months ago before it got too cold, plus never having done a salt water or boat dive, I was also pretty nervous. The place chartering the dives was Stuart Cove, about a 45 minute ride from our accommodations at Atlantis. Stuart Cove was actually used as the set for "Flipper" and has also been in charge of dives for Into the Blue & two James



Bond movies. I didn't even realize how famous the dive company was until we saw the mural in the dive shop of all the actors who have dove with them-Sean Connery,

Pierce Brosnan, Matt Damon, the cast of MythBusters, and Mike Rowe of Dirty Jobs just to name a few. The first site we went to was a wall, which started at ~30 feet & is estimated to go down as far as ~6,000 feet, the 3rd largest trench in the world. I actually got down to 87 feet without any problem (don't tell the scuba police as I'm not actually certified yet to go down that far!). The population of sea fans & coral was amazing. And the water was crystal clear-probably 100 ft. vis...much different than Circleville! Our second dive was only a little ways from the wall & was actually the better dive of the two. Maybe because it was unguided. We traveled away from where the wall was into a field of coral & sand. One of the highlights of this dive was seeing a colony of lionfish hanging out under some rock. The lionfish population there has actually exploded & some of the crew at Stuart Cove are doing studies to see if the lionfish are actually harming the reef or not. Others on the island are trying to figure out the best way of preparing the lionfish (they do have a poison gland so it has to be prepared very carefully). This would also relieve the population. We also

managed to get a video of a Southern Sting Ray, but the highlight was seeing a Green Sea Turtle (or maybe a Hawksbill, I'm not sure). We were able to take a video of him eating off of a clump of coral. Very cool! All in all, the dives were great, and the captain & Divemaster aboard. The next time I'm in the Bahamas I'll definitely want to go back & do some more dives with them...maybe the shark feeding dives or out to the James Bond dive sites.



Atlantis & American Express have teamed up together for The Blue Project-a conservation effort to conserve the reefs around the Bahamas. We were able to go behind

the scenes of The Blue Project & get a tour of the aquarium as well as see the labs & rehabilitation areas for the aquarium & reef areas housed in Atlantis. They now have a package where you can experience working in the labs there. If you're traveling to Atlantis, be sure to do the Deep Swim with the dolphins in Dolphin Cay. With the Deep Swim, you get a lot more interaction with the dolphins than you do in the Shallow Swim, & you get to do cool things with them such as have them push you through the water, lots of touching them, & swimming with them underwater with a diver propulsion vehicle. Definitely worth the extra money! Dolphin Cay also has a new package available where you can work with the dolphin trainers for a day & get more hands-on experience.

-Thanks Heather for a great article.

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Travel Info

Bonaire – August 9th – 16th - \$1299pp

St. Lawrence – August 14th – 18th, 2008 - Don't miss the boat on this one – call today to reserve your spot! This trip is filling fast! Only a few spots left! Call for price.

Tahiti – September 6th – 13th, 2008 - \$3995 includes airfare from LAX

St. Lucia – September 20th – 27th, 2008 - \$1749pp Call today!

Future trips... Grand Cayman, Key Largo, Turks and Caicos, Truk (Chuuk) Lagoon - 2009, Crystal River, New Jersey, North Carolina, Belize.

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR AUGUST 2008

August 1 & 2 - Parrots of the Caribbean (Portage Quarry)

August 8 - 10 - Legends Weekend - Portage

August 28th - Dive Club Meeting

Aqua Immersion's Aquanauts Dive Club Meeting Report

Our next dive club meeting will be on Thursday, AUGUST 28th at 7:00 pm at the Winking Lizard - Bethel Road location. If you have not attended one of our meetings we invite you to do so. We have a great time - Great Food, Drinks and Company. The dive club has there own website now so we invite you to send over your club pictures or trip pictures and we will add them to the site. The website address is <http://aiaquanauts.angelfire.com>

2008 Dive Club Calendar - All meetings are held at the Winking Lizard on Bethel Rd. at 7:00pm. The dates are as follows:

January 24	July 24
February 28	August 28
March 27	September 25
April 24	October 23
May 22	November 20
June 26	December 18

Store News....

Goodbye Jesse and Heather...It is with great sadness that we will be saying goodbye to Jesse and Heather at the end of August as they move to Kansas where Heather will continue to work on her doctorate. Jesse has been like a son to me and an exceptional employee, one that I will miss deeply. He and Heather both have worked hard at helping to make us a great success and for this we thank you. Everyone here at

Aqua Immersion wishes both Jesse and Heather much success in Kansas. We have enjoyed working with the both of you. Good Luck!

HELP WANTED – We are looking for Instructors and Divemasters. Not an Instructor yet – sign up for the IDC and then come talk with Joe. We are also accepting applications for retail sales – experience preferred. Swim Instructors needed. Call today to talk with Melissa or stop by the store.

Store Specials

AUGUST Special – PADI Specialty of the Month - Wreck Diver - pay for the class receive the manual free plus 10% off the purchase of all reels.

Sign up for the AOW class to be held on August 23 & 24 and only pay \$189. (Course materials not included)

Ohio Quarry Reports -

Circleville Twin Quarries - Temperature was 77 visibility was minimal. <http://www.twinquarries.com>

Portage Quarry and Recreation Club - Surface temp: Low 60's, Visibility: 20-30 feet. <http://www.portagequarry.com>

Lakeview Park - Lakeview's temperatures are in the upper 70's low 80's.

Gilboa Quarry - Temp is 75 at the surface with 50 ft. visibility. <http://www.divegilboa.com>

Whitestar Quarry - Water temperature was 75 on the surface 57 bottom temp and visibility @ 20ffw is 45 - 55ft. - <http://www.whitestarquarry.com>

TUESDAY NIGHT DIVES @ CIRCLEVILLE -

Join Jesse, Jeff and the rest of the guys at Circleville on Tuesday nights for the Tuesday Night Dives. First group goes in around 5:00 and the second group enters the water at 6:00. If you need a buddy or directions just ask.

Training

- Bubblemaker & PADI Seal Team
- Junior Open Water
- Junior Advanced Open Water
- Open Water
- Advanced Open Water
- Specialty Diver - Night Diver, Dry Suit Diver, Wreck Diver, Peak Performance Buoyancy Control, Underwater Photography & Videography, Boat Diver, Drift Diver, Underwater Naturalist, Underwater Navigation, Altitude Diver, AWARE Coral Reef Conservation, AWARE Fish Identification, Enriched Air Diver, Deep Diver, DPV Diver, Multilevel & Computer Diver, Solo Diver, Gas Blender,

Decompression Theory & Advanced Nitrox Diver, Rebreather Training (closed & semi-closed), Trimix Diver

- Scuba Tune-up
- Emergency First Response/Medic First Aid
- Oxygen Provider
- Master Scuba Diver
- Rescue Diver
- Divemaster
- Open Water Scuba Instructor
- Master Scuba Diver Trainer

Training agencies utilized: PADI (Professional Association of Diving Instructors,) TDI (Technical Diving International,) SDI (Scuba Diving International,) ERDI (Emergency Response Diving International)

Service

- Air, nitrox, trimix, argon and oxygen fills
Nitrox fills are only \$14.00 (up to 40%) and there is no need to have your tank O2 cleaned to get a Nitrox fill. Ask about our fill card special!
- Cylinder visual inspections, valve repair, eddy current, oxygen cleaning, tumbling and hydrostatic testing
- Rental gear including drysuits
- Our service technicians are trained to service all lines of gear.

2008 Class Schedule

DISCOVER SCUBA

Discover Scuba Diving Know someone who is interested in learning to dive? They can come in and "try it" for a minimal fee. Then when they sign up for a class they will receive a discount and you will receive a referral point.

AUGUST 2, 8, 18, 23, 27

SEPTEMBER 11, 20, 29

OPEN WATER DIVER COURSE (CLASSROOM/POOL SCHEDULE)

AUGUST 2008

CLASS #OWQS080802 AUGUST 2 & 3 10:00AM-4:00PM

CLASS #OWT080805 AUGUST 5,7,12,14 6:00PM-9:00PM

CLASS #OW080811 AUGUST 11, 18, 25 6:00PM-9:00PM

CLASS #OWQS080816 AUGUST 16 & 17 10:00AM-4:00PM

CLASS #OWT080826 AUG 26,28,SEPT 2,4 6:00PM-9:00PM

CLASS #OWQS080830 AUGUST 30 & 31 10:00AM-4:00PM

SEPTEMBER 2008

CLASS #OWQS080906 SEPTEMBER 6 & 7 10:00AM-4:00PM

CLASS #OW080910 SEPTEMBER 10, 17, 24, OCT 1 6:00PM-9:00PM

CLASS #OWQS080913 SEPTEMBER 13 & 14 10:00AM-4:00PM

CLASS #OWT080916 SEPTEMBER 16,18,23&26 6:00PM- 9:00PM

CLASS #OWQS080920 SEPTEMBER 20 & 21 10:00AM-4:00PM

CLASS #OWQS080927 SEPTEMBER 27 & 28 10:00AM- 4:00PM

OPEN WATER DIVER COURSE (OPEN WATER DIVE SCHEDULE)

AUGUST 2008

DIVES 1 & 2 AUGUST 9,23,30 CIRCLEVILLE @ 9:00AM

DIVES 3 & 4 AUGUST 10,24,31 CIRCLEVILLE @ 9:00AM

SEPTEMBER 2008

DIVES 1 & 2 SEPTEMBER 6,13,20,27 CIRCLEVILLE @ 9:00AM

DIVES 3 & 4 SEPTEMBER 7,14,21,28 CIRCLEVILLE @ 9:00AM

ADVANCED OPEN WATER DIVER COURSES

AUGUST 2008

CLASS #AOW080809 AUGUST 9 & 10 9:00AM

CLASS #AOW080816 AUGUST 16 & 17 9:00AM

CLASS #AOW080830 AUGUST 30 & 31 9:00AM

SEPTEMBER 2008

CLASS #AOW080913 SEPTEMBER 13 & 14 9:00AM

CLASS #AOW080927 SEPTEMBER 27 & 28 9:00AM

RESCUE DIVER COURSES

AUGUST 2008

CLASS #RD080802 AUGUST 1 LECTURE 6:00-9:00PM

AUGUST 2 DIVES 10AM - 5PM

CLASS #RD080823 AUGUST 22 LECTURE 6:00-9:00PM

AUGUST 23 DIVES 10AM - 5PM

SEPTEMBER 2008

CLASS #RD080912 SEPTEMBER 12 LECTURE 6:00-9:00PM

SEPTEMBER 13 & 14 DIVES 10AM - 5PM

CLASS #RD080912 SEPTEMBER 26 LECTURE 6:00-9:00PM

SEPTEMBER 27 & 28 DIVES 10AM - 5PM

SPECIALTY DIVER COURSES**AUGUST 2008**

CLASS #EA080808 Enriched Air, 6:00-9:00PM AUGUST 8

CLASS #ES080813 Equip. Spec., 6:00-9:00PM AUGUST 13

CLASS #EFR080815 EFR, 6:00-9:00PM AUGUST 15

CLASS #EA080819 Enriched Air, 6:00-9:00PM AUGUST 19

CLASS #EFR080829 EFR, 6:00-9:00PM AUGUST 29

SEPTEMBER 2008

CLASS #PP080903 Peak Performance, 6:00-9:00PM SEPT 3

CLASS #DS080807 DrySuit, 6:00-9:00PM SEPTEMBER 7

CLASS #WR080909 Wreck, 6:00-9:00PM SEPTEMBER 9

CLASS #ES080915 Equip Spec, 6:00-9:00PM SEPTEMBER 15

CLASS #NT080917 Night, 6:00-9:00PM SEPTEMBER 17

CLASS #EFR080919 EFR, 6:00-9:00PM SEPTEMBER 19

If interested in a course not scheduled here, please call or come by the store; many courses are not pre-scheduled and are set up on an as needed basis.

DISCOVER REBREATHERS

Our Discover Rebreather class can accommodate your schedule. Limited space available so call today to schedule your spot.

AUGUST 2008

Discover Rebreather AUGUST 17

SEPTEMBER 2008

Discover Rebreather SEPTEMBER 21

ARTHRITIS FITNESS**AUGUST 2008**

AUGUST 4, 6, 7, 11, 12, 14, 18, 20, 21

SEPTEMBER 2008

SEPTEMBER 3, 5, 11, 12, 15, 19, 22, 23, 29, 30

PADI SEAL TEAM

PADI Seal Team - Now in session for ages 8 -12. Meeting once a month, the Seal Team is working on the history of diving timeline for the showroom, building an artificial reef for the pool to use for photography courses, and on just having fun in the water. Call for more information.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN SEPTEMBER.....**SEPTEMBER 1, 2008 - LABOR DAY****SEPTEMBER 25 – Dive Club Meeting**

FOOTBALL GAMES ON THE BIG SCREEN IN THE SURFACE INTERVAL – Join us every weekend for all the college and pro football games.

Aqua Immersion929 Jasonway Ave. Suite A
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Phone - (614) 457-DIVE (3483)

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Toll Free 1(877) DIV-AQUA
(1-877-348-2782)

Web Site coming soon!!!

www.aquaimmersion.com

Currently under construction

Store Hours:

Monday through Friday 10am - 8pm

Saturday 10am - 6pm

Sunday 1pm - 6pm