AQUA IMMERSION
Dive N' Travel Center

Aquatude!

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2008 PAGE 1

Aug 2, 2008

The Picasso Spear Fishing Tournament

Narragansett Pier, RI

Upon discovering this year's planned trip to Hatteras, NC to dive on sunken WWII submarines and other underwater catastrophes was out due to our son's wedding, I cruised the net and discovered the 2008 Picasso (breath hold) Spear Fishing Tournament in Narragansett Pier, RI.

For a modest $45 entry fee, one had hopes of winning something valuable from over $4,000 in Picasso dive equipment, a Spanish dive gear manufacturer, ranging from spear guns and wet suits to DVDs. Not having done this in nearly 30 years, possessing only an aging fiberglass pole spear and an irreparably defunct pneumatic spear gun, of course I had no hope of winning anything except a booby prize. I called my old dive buddy, who lives in nearby Massachusetts, to see if he was available to be my boatman, and my son to see if he had time for a quasi bachelor's party with a couple of old geezers going diving. With all systems go, including my wife who wanted to tag along, I pasted a Sea Nag sticker on my boat console, loaded up my Zodiac and Toyota with dive equipment and camping gear, and set off for Rhode island.

What a show. While the big guns headed out to Block Island where the monster fish evidently abounded, my *compadres* and I explored the underwater environs of Point Judith. We saw schools of Tautog, a great tasting chowder fish (26" Tautog at left), which was destroyed by a kamikaze striped bass that came out of nowhere and literally exploded among them right in front of us, obliterating the school and making our entire trip worth the effort.

The second best part of the trip was the afternoon weigh-in concluding the tournament. The largest fish recorded was a 44lb. striped bass, speared by a septuagenarian who clearly is still on top of his game, since he shot not one but two 40+lb. stripers on tournament day!

5.2lb.flounder/fluke

At least 8 large stripers were caught with the average weight totaling 32 lbs. The overall winner was determined by the largest number of species caught, in this case, seven *different* species of fish. After reaching maximum size limits; e.g. 20lb. for stripers, there was no point advantage for fish that exceeded upper limits in size. I have never seen anything like it.

Contestant with 32-35 lb striper and 8lb Tautog

Fortunately, the fish do not go to waste. All are consumed in barbecues or sold to fish markets and restaurants. Unfortunately, I didn't get a taste of any of the stripers, but I did walk away with a booby prize: a Picasso video entitled, *Pepe Viña, Northern Spain Sea Storm, famous hunters* (series). Better luck next time!

☺ *Rob Robison* *Columbus Sea Nags*

Thank you Rob for the great story from your spear fishing adventure. For submitting his story, Rob will receive a gift certificate from Aqua Immersion. If you have a story you would like to share we would love to read it, and if printed in the newsletter you too will receive an Aqua Immersion gift card.

CONTENTS PAGE

LEAD ARTICLE	1
CLUB & QUARRY REPORT	2
SPECIALS & TRAVEL	2
TRAINING & SERVICE	2 - 3
CLASS SCHEDULE	3 - 4

http://www.picassoamerica.com/catalog/default.php?cPath=57

Travel Info

Turks & Caicos – February 13th – 17th, 2009 - $1100pp. Limited spots available.
Grand Cayman – March 21st – 28th, 2009 - $1838pp. Call today to reserve your spot for Spring Break 2009

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

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR NOVEMBER 2008

NOVEMBER 20 – DIVE CLUB MEETING

David Doubilet Performance

NOVEMBER 27 – HAPPY THANKSGIVING

We will be closed on Thanksgiving Day so our staff can spend time with there families.

NOVEMBER 28 – AFTER THANKSGIVING SALE

SANTA ARRIVES AT NOON!!!

Hey kids come have your picture taken with Santa in the pool. Don't forget to bring your swimsuit and towel. Hey parents while the kids are in the pool why not take advantage of the great deals on all scuba gear. And for you football fans the games will be showing on the big screen as well as the showroom tv's so come in catch the game and get some real good deals.

Aqua Immersion's Aquanauts Dive Club Meeting Report

Our next dive club meeting will be on Thursday, November 20th 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 - Good Food, Good Drinks and Good Friends. The dive club has there own website 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…

PADI Specialty of the Month –

UNDERWATER NAVIGATION free navigation wheel with paid class

HELP WANTED - We are accepting applications for the following positions - Scuba Instructors, Divemasters, Swim Instructors and Retail Sales (experience preferred). Call today to talk with Melissa or stop by the store.

Ohio Quarry Reports -

Circleville Twin Quarries - Temperature was 42. Visability was between 10 - 20 ft. http://www.twinquarries.com

Portage Quarry and Recreation Club - Surface temp: Low 40's, Visibility: 35 feet. http://www.portagequarry.com

Lakeview Park - Lakeview's temperatures are in the 40's. Vis is 10-20feet. http://www.lakeviewrvpark.net.com

Gilboa Quarry - Temp is 41 at the surface and 38 at the bottom. 40 ft. visibility. http://www.divegilboa.com .

Whitestar Quarry - Water temperature was in the 48 on the surface 35 bottom temp and visibility 40ft.- http://www.whitestarquarry.com

TUESDAY NIGHT DIVES @ CIRCLEVILLE -
Join Jeff and the rest of the guys at Circleville on Tuesday nights for the Tuesday Night Dives. First group goes in around 5:00pm and the second group enters the water at 6:00pm. If you need a buddy or directions just ask. The divers are now wearing drysuits. Don't own a drysuit - we have the best price in town on drysuits - so come in and buy one today. Financing available.

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.

Dive Season has begun – have you had your gear serviced yet.

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.

NOVEMBER 1, 14, 25

DECEMBER 3, 14

ALSO AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

OPEN WATER DIVER COURSE (CLASSROOM/POOL SCHEDULE)

NOVEMBER 2008

CLASS # OWT081103 NOVEMBER 3, 4, 10 & 11 6:00PM- 9:00PM

CLASS #OW081105 NOVEMBER 5, 12, 19, 26 6:00PM-9:00PM

DECEMBER 2008

CLASS #OWQS081213 DECEMBER 13 & 14 10:00AM - 4:00PM

DURING THE WINTER MONTHS WE SCHEDULE OPEN WATER CLASSES ACCORDING TO YOUR SCHEDULE. JUST CALL WHEN YOU NEED A CLASS.

OPEN WATER DIVER COURSE (OPEN WATER DIVE SCHEDULE)

NOVEMBER 2008

DIVES 1& 2 NOVEMBER 1 CIRCLEVILLE @ 9:00AM

DIVES 3 & 4 NOVEMBER 2 CIRCLEVILLE @ 9:00AM

DECEMBER 2008

WE WILL RESUME OPEN WATER DIVES IN MAY

CLASSES ARE ALSO SCHEDULED WITH REFERRALS

ADVANCED OPEN WATER DIVER COURSES

NOVEMBER 2008

CLASS #AOW081101 NOVEMBER 1 & 2 LOCATION TBD 9:00AM

DECEMBER 2008

WE WILL RESUME ADVANCED OPEN WATER DIVES IN MAY

CLASSES ARE ALSO SCHEDULED WITH REFERRALS

RESCUE DIVER COURSES

NOVEMBER 2008

CLASS #RD081107 NOVEMBER 7 LECTURE 6:00-9:00PM

NOVEMBER 8 DIVES 10AM-3PM

DECEMBER 2008

WE WILL RESUME RESCUE DIVES IN MAY

SPECIALTY DIVER COURSES

NOVEMBER 2008

CLASS #EA0811101 **Enriched Air**, November 1, 11am

CLASS #DS081102 **Drysuit,** November 2, 10am

CLASS #02081108 **O2 Cleaning,** November 8, 11am

CLASS #CPR081109, **CPR,** November 9, 1pm

CLASS #EA0811111 **Enriched Air**, November 11, 6pm

CLASS #GB081115 **TDI Gas Blending**, November 15, 11am

CLASS #DO2081116 **O2,** November 16, 1pm

CLASS#AGB081115 **TDI Adv Gas Blending**, November 15, 11am

CLASS #ES081123 **Equip Spec,** November 23, 1pm

DECEMBER 2008

CLASS #ES081207 **Equip Spec,** December 7, 1pm

CLASS #CPR081109, **CPR,** December 9, 1pm

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.

ARTHRITIS FITNESS

NOVEMBER 2008

NOVEMBER 3, 4 ,5, 11, 12, 13, 19, 20, 21, 26, 28.

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 December…

PADI SPECIALTY OF THE MONTH – Search and Recovery

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

SPECIAL STORE HOURS IN DECEMBER –

DECEMBER 23RD 10:00am – 4:00pm

DECEMBER 24TH – JANUARY 3RD WE ARE CLOSED. WE WILL RESUME OUR NORMAL BUSINESS HOURS SUNDAY JANUARY 4TH.

Aqua Immersion
929 Jasonway Ave. Suite A
Columbus, Ohio 43214
Phone – (614) 457-DIVE (3483)
Fax – (614) 457-3485
Toll Free 1(877) DIV-AQUA
(1-877-348-2782)

Check out our NEW Web Site !!!
www.aquaimmersion.com

Store Hours:
Monday through Friday 10am – 8pm
Saturday 10am – 6pm
Sunday 1pm – 6pm