

Long Caye, Belize, Glovers Reef Atoll
By Chelsea Arata

Atoll reefs are the rarest kind of reef, and Glovers Reef Atoll has long been noted as one of the most beautiful. I was only recently certified, and so, Long Caye (pronounce it 'long KEY' if you don't want to get laughed at by the people who live there) became where I did my first dives outside of the qualifying ones in a quarry, and got my Advanced Open Water certification. The dive sites I got to see include the fabulous Long Caye wall, the Abyss, and the Wild Side. The Wild Side is a portion of the coral wall, but we didn't go down the wall there, and it was still pretty. At sixty feet, when we looked over the edge of the wall, we couldn't see the bottom at all, just blue. We saw an eagle ray there, and did our Fish ID dive there. Angelfish and pufferfish are there for the lucky to see.

The Abyss was the boat dive we took. Our group was tired that day, but when one boy heard the word "Shark", he perked up so much that he convinced us all to go. It's a good thing he did, because it was truly beautiful there. We didn't see any sharks, which the divemasters with us called an oddity, but we saw lots of coral, lots of fairy basslets, and lots of angel fish.

For the last dive, we went to the Long Caye Wall. The Long Caye Wall is the deepest part, and the most famous dive site there. A different portion of the Long Caye Wall had been where we did our deep dive, and even at 110 feet we couldn't see the bottom. On our last dive, we saw two huge sea turtles, a moray eel, and schools of fish that just swam around us, like we weren't even there.

Our group all fell in love with the diving there, the friendly staff at the Off the Wall dive resort, and the overall beauty of the area. If you ever get the

chance, it is worth any amount of seasickness, any amount of homesickness, and any amount of time to go see this beautiful dive site.

Chelsea was lucky enough to participate in this trip through Adventures Cross Country (ARCC), a company specializing in teenage adventure travel. She has earned a \$25 store credit for her contribution to our newsletter. Thanks, Chelsea!!!



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Upcoming Events/Products

Discover Scuba Diving We now offer three ways that you and your friends and family can "Discover Scuba Diving!"

- 1) We are working with local Police Departments in support of the D.A.R.E. program (*Drug Abuse Resistance Education*) so show your appreciation for the DSD course and your Instructor by making a \$25.00 donation to the D.A.R.E. program of your choice (locality.)
- 2) Reap the benefits of a 100% return on your next **fundraising event!** Enjoy Scuba diving and raise money for your non-profit group at the same time. Any weekend, invite your friends, family, neighbors and associates to experience our Discover Scuba Diving Program and we'll donate 100% of the normal course fees from your group back to your organization.
- 3) And as always, you can enjoy this experience at no cost, so call or stop by to schedule the start of your new adventure!

Looking for a place to hold a Birthday Party?

Look no further, we can accommodate you and your children's friends! Kids' Discover Scuba Birthday Party, bring your friends and Dive in our pool!

Scheduling parties now, for up to 8 children between the ages of 10 and 15. Cost includes pizza, soda, and discover scuba diving. Goodie bags available for an additional cost.

Also available:

Discover Bubblemaker party for up to 6 children between the ages of 8 and 10. Discover snorkeling party for up to 8 children, age 8 and up. Swimming parties for up to 10 children (all ages - Must be potty-trained).

Have your own pool?

We will come to you! Discover Scuba, birthday parties or even open water pool sessions can be done in the privacy and convenience of your own pool! Just ask us how!

Seminar Series... Bring the family!!!! September's Seminar will be on Saturday, 22nd at 6:30 pm. We will be presenting a DVD from Oceans for Youth Foundation. This one is for the whole family. We will have a Q & A time about how to include the entire family in the love of the Ocean and diving. An on-going program with the Oceans for Youth Foundation will be scheduled after the September seminar.

THE SEMINARS ARE FREE; THERE IS NO COST TO ATTEND! SO COME AND ENJOY GOOD FRIENDS, GOOD FUN AND GOOD FOOD ON US!

Aqua Immersion's Aquanauts Dive Club Meeting Report

The Columbus Aquanauts meets every fourth Wednesday of the month at the Winking Lizard on Bethel Road at 8:00pm! Our last meeting was on August 22nd. The St. Lawrence Seaway trip was discussed. Everyone was given their trip packet and other information that they needed. A regulator necklace was given away in the raffle. Jesse Morgan won the 50/50 raffle.

Product Lines...As always watch for more new gear lines coming soon such as Sea & Sea Camera's and Underwater Housing, Harvey's and Pinnacle to add to our already large selection including Aqua Lung, Deep See, SeaQuest, SDS, DUI, Dive Rite, Diving Concepts, Tusa, Cressi-Sub, Tilos and many more!



Skins and Rash Guards are now in stock.

Fourth Element is now here!!! Come check out this wonderfully neutrally buoyant undergarment and see what everyone is talking about! Brad Mullin is raving about his. It is the "perfect" undergarment for his dry suit. Aqua Immersion is the **exclusive** central Ohio dealer!

NEWLY ARRIVED ITEMS!!!

VR2 & VR3 COMPUTERS!!!
The World's Only Upgradeable Dive Computers!



SOON TO COME...POD CASTING!!! Can't make it to one of the free seminars? Soon they will be available on our website, so keep an eye out!!!

Aqua Immersion is constantly looking at new ways to bring you the latest industry news and information and this is just another way to keep you informed even if you are not able to attend some of our activities.

NEW!!!! Aqua Immersion Dive Literature Library!!!!

Come in and browse our books and take one home for your reading pleasure. Honor system check-out process.

ATTENTION TECHNICAL DIVERS!!!!!!!!!!

Aqua Immersion is the only dive center in Central Ohio to offer you a complete line of technical gear featuring Dive Rite, SDS Inspiration/Evolution Rebreathers, and Aqua Lung. If you're looking for certain items and we don't have it in stock we will do our best to get it for you! Come in and check out our full line of technical gear and accessories today!

DON'T FORGET! Closed Circuit Rebreathers are available in our rental department to help keep your cost down! Must have your rebreather certification in order to rent one, so sign up for a rebreather course today!!!

Also, Aqua Immersion has the largest in-stock dry suit selection in Central Ohio! Come in and try on your new dry suit today!

Joe McCurry has designed and added gas boosting capabilities to both in store and field operations to support both technical, open circuit and closed circuit rebreathers. If you need technical dive gases we have you covered. We are the Columbus area's only **tech gas** supplier. **Compare our fill costs to other locations!**

Store Specials

September special - Rescue Diver!

Get 25% off course materials when you sign-up for and pay for the Rescue Diver course! **Our next class is Friday September 21st (lecture) and dives on Sunday the 23rd.**

Aqua Immersion strives to be a dive center with the best customer service, quality and lowest prices in the area. If you find a better deal at another store let us know and we'll do our best to match it or beat it! Call for details!

Ohio Quarry Reports

Circleville Twin Quarries - Temperature is in the mid 70's and vis was around 10 - 15 feet. <http://www.twinquarries.com>

Portage Quarry and Recreation Club - Surface temp: 73 degrees, Visibility: 20-40 feet (depending on where you are), Thermocline temp: 65 degrees at a depth of 35 feet. <http://www.portagequarry.com>

Lakeview Park - "We had an average of 15' and sometimes less than 3' vis when following the lines. Lakeview's temperatures are warming up, the surface was 72 F and below the thermocline it was 53 F"

Gilboa Quarry - Temp is around 75 degrees at about 50 feet and vis is around 20 feet. <http://www.divegilboa.com>

Whitestar Quarry - Temp is in the mid 60's on the bottom and in the upper 70's at the surface and vis at 20ft. is 20 - 25 ft and at 45ft. is between 30 & 45 feet as of 9/01/07. - <http://www.whitestarquarry.com>

Travel Info

Australia Live-Aboard - November 13th - 23rd, Costs beginning at \$4815pp (price varies depending on rooms) includes airfare from LAX, SpoilSport Live-Aboards.

Wakatobi - June 5th - 18th, 2008 - \$4999pp includes round trip airfare from LAX.

Curacao, Sunset Waters - All Inclusive package for as little as \$1395 pp plus air until December 19th, 2007. Call or stop by for complete details!

Bonaire, Plaza Resort - 7nights/6 days for as little as \$1224.00pp plus airfare.

Future trips..... Grand Cayman, Key Largo, Turks and Caico, Truk Lagoon, Crystal River.

Learn Here, Check Out There... Do your classroom and pool sessions here and your open water dives in Grand Cayman (or wherever your heart desires) and save 15%. PADI Open Water Certification fee with Aqua Immersion is great but if you book a trip with your training the cost is even better, call today for more details.

For all you current and future rebreather divers/photographers - you can join Amos Nachoum and Peter DenHaan on a trip to the Cocos Islands on the *Undersea Hunter*. This trip is a dedicated rebreather only trip and will be June 26 - July 9, 2008. Call now to reserve your spot! (\$6,900.00)

We at Aqua Immersion really want to provide "value added" service to our Tech diver community and cater to their needs whether its equipment, special gases or trips.

Stay tuned...more to come! Contact us for more details or to book your own dive trip today with our on-site travel agent specializing in Scuba diving vacations – Caribbean Dive Tours/Worldwide Travel. (Book your next Aggressor Fleet trip with us and save \$\$\$!)

WE NOW OFFER IN HOUSE FINANCING!!! AN INDUSTRY FIRST IN THE CENTRAL OHIO AREA!!!

Service

- Air, nitrox, trimix, argon and oxygen fills (Nitrox fills are only \$12.00 and there is no need to have your tank O2 cleaned to get a Nitrox fill since we use a membrane system!) Ask about our fill card special!
- Cylinder visual inspections, valve repair, eddy current, oxygen cleaning, tumbling and hydrostatic testing
- Rental gear
- BCD and regulator repair & service (all brands)

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)

2007 Class Schedule

OPEN WATER DIVER COURSE (CLASSROOM/POOL SCHEDULE)

SEPTEMBER

- Class # OW0947, 6-9pm, Sept. 4, 5, 6, 7
 Class # OW0989, 10am-4pm, Sept. 8 & 9
 Class # OW0911, 6-9pm, Sept. 11, 13, 18, 20
 Class # OW0929, 10am-4pm, Sept. 29 & 30

OCTOBER

- Class # OW1002, 6-9pm, Oct. 2, 4, 9, 11
 Class # OW1006, 10am-4pm, Oct. 6 & 7
 Class # OW1015, 6-9pm, Oct. 15, 17, 22, 24
 Class # OW1027, 10am-4pm, Oct 27 & 28

NOVEMBER

- Class # OW1103, 10am-4pm, Nov. 3 & 4
 Class # OW1107, 6-9pm, Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28
 Class # OW1113, 6-9pm, Nov. 13, 15, 27, 29

DECEMBER

- Class # OW1201, 10am-4pm, Dec. 1 & 2
 Class # OW1205, 6-9pm, Dec. 5, 7, 19, 21
 Class # OW1210, 6-9pm, Dec. 10, 11, 12, 13

OPEN WATER DIVER COURSE (OPEN WATER DIVE SCHEDULE)

SEPTEMBER

- Class # OWD091, 9am-2pm, Sept. 1 & 2
 Class # OWD915, 9am-2pm, Sept. 15 & 16
 Class # OWD929, 9am-2pm, Sept. 29 & 30

OCTOBER

- Class # OWD1006, 9am-2pm, Oct. 6 & 7
 Class # OWD1013, 9am-2pm, Oct. 13 & 14
 Class # OWD1020, 9am-2pm, Oct. 20 & 21
 Class # OWD1027, 9am-2pm, Oct. 27 & 28

ADVANCED OPEN WATER DIVER COURSES**SEPTEMBER**

Class # AOW0901, 2-9pm, Sept. 1 & 2

Class # AOW0915, 9-4pm, Sept. 29 & 30

OCTOBER

Class # AOW1013, 2pm - 9pm, Oct. 13 & 14

Class # AOW1020, 9am - 4pm, Oct. 20 & 21

RESCUE DIVER COURSES**SEPTEMBER**

Class # RD0921, Lecture: 6-10pm on Sept. 21, Dives:
9am-3pm on Sept. 23

OCTOBER

Class # RD1019, Lecture: 6-10pm on Oct. 19, Dives: 2-
6pm on Oct. 20 & 21

SPECIALTY DIVER COURSES**SEPTEMBER**

Class # SR0901, Search & Recovery, 3-6pm, Sept. 1

Class # EA0908, Enriched Air, 4-8pm, Sept. 8

OCTOBER

Class # DS1013, Dry Suit Diver, 2-5pm, Oct. 13

Class # EA1027, Enriched Air, 10am-2pm, Oct. 27

NOVEMBER

Class # ES1110, Equipment Specialist, 10-2pm, Nov. 10

Class # EA1117, Enriched Air, 10am-2pm, Nov. 17

DECEMBER

Class # EA1208, Enriched Air, 10am-2pm, Dec. 8

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

DISCOVER REBREATHERS

Our next Discover Rebreather class will be offered October 20th. Limited space available so call today to schedule your space.

WATER AEROBICS**Now offering Water Aerobics!!!**

Join us for fitness and fun! Water Aerobic classes are being held 3 times each week in our pool. Come in to pick up a schedule or call to schedule a class today!

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. The next mission is on Saturday, October 13, 2007 at 2:00 pm.

A Few of Our Favorite Links: (send us some of your favorites so we can share them!)

<http://www.ohiomast.org/>

<http://www.ocssdi.org/>

<http://www.padi.com/padi/default.aspx>

<http://www.scubafest.org/>

<http://www.eriewrecks.com/>

During the week of August 20th to 25th, The Brad Mullin Family was privileged to have as their guest, Brenna Mahoney. She was here, in Columbus, in order to become a SCUBA instructor under the instruction of Patrix Heschel. This year Brenna was awarded the North American Scholar, a scholarship from Our World Underwater, allowing her the opportunity to travel the world, learning everything she can about the dive industry and the oceans. You can follow her throughout the year on her blog:

<http://www.owusolarship.org/scholarship.aspx>.