



SeaDevil Divers™

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February 1998

Chip Earle, Editor
Missy Lindsay
Chris Thompson

◆ 300 Preston Avenue, Suite 410; Charlottesville, VA 22902
(804) 296-0455 - (804) 984-4489
E-mail: chip@SeaDevilDivers.com

Or pay us a cyber visit: <http://www.SeaDevilDivers.com>

Hey SeaDevils!

It's the dead of winter, not as cold as usual, but still a long way from spring. Let's at least talk about diving!

First, I should apologize for not mentioning in the last letter that **Brian Rees** and **Lee Rees** braved Lake Rawlings the weekend after Christmas and completed their Open Water Diver designation. With the water temperature 50 deg. and a little short of hoods and gloves, they most certainly earned their fins. Congratulations!

For those interested, Lake Rawlings is now open 7 days a week and the key can be picked up by any certified diver at the Scottish Inn just off the I85 exit. Fantasy Lake near Wake Forest is open on the weekends. The gate is unlocked. Just go in, register and pay your quarry fee. On your honor! The water won't get any colder. A warm day and a desire to get wet is all you need! Well, and maybe a dry suit, at least for me!

Thanks so very much to **Gary Eisenhuth** for his talk this past DEW Scuba. Gary is trying to involve high school students in the marine sciences. Starting first with students at Murray High School where he works, Gary is attempting to expand the program to all area high schools. He is also trying to raise scholarship funds to assist needy students to participate in this program. Gary has also agreed to help us develop and operate educational trips for all who are interested. Thanks a lot, Gary!

Last chance to sign up for **Norma Deihl's** class beginning February 11. (see page 5) Should be an interesting and educational opportunity for all Caribbean divers.

Editorial Comments

Ned and Mary Bittinger got back from Hawaii last week where Ned dove in Molokini, a volcanic crater just off of Maui! Ned reports that the protected area encouraged an abundance of fish life, but that he thought Freeport was better. Ned and Mary took one day and watched

whales breaching, an awe inspiring sight according to Ned!

Chris Thompson returns from Anguilla at the end of this month and says she will be at DEW Scuba. Also welcome back to **Lynn Samuel, Lincoln Burke,** and **Allen Graves** who just got back from Bonaire. Please stop by DEW Scuba and tell us all about your adventures.

I recently attended the charter meeting of the Coastal Conservation Association, Central Virginia Chapter. This group works to conserve, protect and restore ocean fish stocks and is headed up by local divers **Cort Van Clief** and **Herb Craddock**. This organization grew up from the ranks of recreational anglers, but there is every reason for scuba enthusiasts to be involved as well. If you're interested, please contact Cort at 977-5194

I'm off to Belize with a great cast of characters; including, **Garry Rund, James Mayson, Suzanne Staton, Robin Amato, Frank and Jane Buck, Bob Green, Jackie Archer,** and **Rich and Chris Pettus**.

Well that's all for now. Wish us safe diving and and we'll tell you all about it on February 9th. Please don't forget ... DEW Scuba... See you at Awful's...

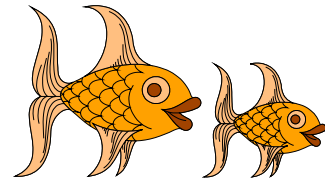
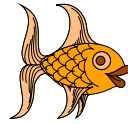
--Chip

CHECK IT OUT!

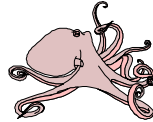
- Class Information & Schedule
- DEW Scuba
- Dive Trips
- Special Features
- Recent Happenings
- Dive Tips
- Web Site

Dive Trips

“We Schedule, We Go!”

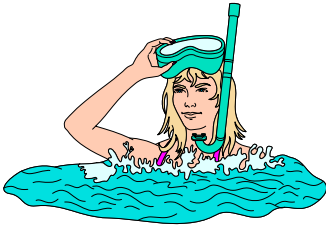


January 31 - February 7, '98. Blue Marlin Lodge at South Water Cay, Belize - No instruction & Advanced Diver Certification is required. Contact Chip.



March 7-14, '98 Little Cayman Beach Resort.

James Mayson is taking an intimate group of very lucky divers to the Caribbean's very best wall diving site. Call James at 974-1556 or E-mail: hscjdm@aol.com.



April 23-27, '98 Freeport, Grand Bahama. PADI Cavern Certification Available!! (only 2 spots) Join the **Freeport Gang** for

three days of diving and a day of sun on the beach. Airfare from Richmond, Accomodations and 9 Boat Dives! Open Water Certification Dives and Advanced Open Water Course available. Call Chip 984-4489 Email Chip@SeaDevilDivers.com

June or July '98 (formative) Providenciales, Turks & Caicos
More next month!

August 27-31, '98 Freeport, Grand Bahama Cap off your summer with three days of diving and a day of sun on the beach. Airfare from Richmond, Accomodations and 9 Boat Dives! Open Water Certification Dives and Advanced Open Water Course available.



November 26-30, '98 THANKSGIVING!! Freeport, Grand Bahama After that great turkey dinner, relax on the flight to Grand Bahama! Come with Chip for three days of diving and a day of just sun and fun. Inclusive

of airfare from Richmond, Accomodations and 9 Boat Dives! Open Water Certification Dives and Advanced Open Water Course available.

Wanted! Trip Leaders & Organizers

As I'm sure you all can imagine, there are more opportunities to travel and dive then any one or two people can possibly do. We need help!

If you're interested in putting together a trip whether its to some high profile overseas destination, the eastern seaboard for some fantastic wreck diving, or just to go to one of the really great quarries this summer, please give me a call.

Working together we can have a lot of fun and provide each other with diving opportunities none of us could have otherwise.

Chip Earle 804-984-4489
Email: Chip@SeaDevilDivers.com



Want help with dive travel?
Keely Vienne, Rescue Diver
296-9000

Looking for more information on our trips? ...

You will find complete trip details and links to the dive operators, hotels, island information and much more when you DIVE INTO THE WEB at

<http://www.SeaDevilDivers.com>

Fish Catch Trawler

1/7/98, Oslo, Norway—A norwegian trawler met its match in herring today, when a school of them sank her, reported the Associated Press.

The fishing vessel Steinholm, a 63 foot trawler, had just caught an enormous number of herring. As the crew began to haul in the catch, the fish sounded.

The violent action of all these fish swimming downward capsized the Steinholm as the crew desperately tried to cut the lines to the nets. The vessel was on her way to the bottom ten minutes later.

The Steinholm's skipper, Geir Nikolaisen, a 35 year veteran of the industry, expressed bewilderment, saying that the event was like nothing he'd ever seen. A nearby trawler managed to recover all six crew members.

New Zealand's 'Extinct' Right Whale Rediscovered

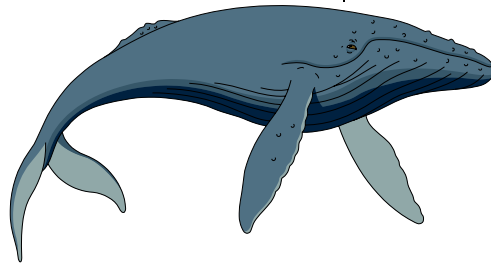
By Matthew Brockett

WELLINGTON, Jan 15 (Reuters) - New Zealand's southern right whale population, thought to have been hunted into extinction early last century, are "highly likely" to still be living in sheltered waters off a remote sub-Antarctic island, scientists said on Thursday.

DNA analysis indicates about 100 to 150 right whales that breed off the Auckland Islands, south of New Zealand, are the remnants of the once numerous New Zealand population, not of the Australian population as previously thought.

"We know that these whales once migrated up and down the New Zealand coastline, but it has long been thought that the whaling industry slaughtered them to extinction," said Conservation Minister Nick Smith.

He hailed the discovery, made by Department of Conservation (DOC) and Auckland University researchers, as "tremendously exciting" for conservationists, who will be encouraged that the rare mammals have managed to recover from severe over-hunting.



"The reason they're called right whales is because they're slow-swimming and coastal in their migratory patterns, and have a great deal of oil so (they) float when they're dead," said Michael Donoghue, a DOC marine biologist. "So they're exactly the 'right' whale to hunt."

"They were harvested for their oil, which basically lit the streets of Europe in the 17th and 18th centuries."

Per metre of body length, the right whale is the heaviest of all whales and can reach up to 60 or 70 tonnes in weight. "These are fantastic animals—they're amongst the biggest animals ever, but quite aerobic and really quite beautiful to view."

The next stage in the study is to extract DNA from museum bone samples of the New Zealand right whale and match them with the data collected from the Auckland Island population.

Ambitious Plan to 'Mine the Ocean'

By Kate Burling - Windhoek (The Namibian, January 6, 1998 Africa News Service) - Ambitious plans to establish a N\$480 million mining operation, dubbed the biggest investment in Namibia since Rossing were unveiled at a press conference in Walvis Bay yesterday.

Bay yesterday.

Managing Director of International Project Development (IPD) Dr Reinhard Zaire detailed extensive plans to "mine the seawater for minerals like Magnesium, Aluminum, Bromine, Sodium Chloride, Sulphur, Calcium and Hydrogen Gas".

He said the mining process - advanced electro dialysis - would leave an annual residue of four million cubic meters of high quality desalinated drinking water, as a "waste product" for which no specific plans had yet been made.

Check out CNN Interactive at
<http://cnn.com>



Class Info & Schedule



To register for any class or to inquire about any facet of the training, please contact Chip at 296-0455 or Email: Chip@SeaDevilDivers.com

PADI Open Water Scuba Diver	March TBA
PADI Advanced Open Water	June TBA
Freeport, Grand Bahama	April 23-27
PADI Medic First Aid	March TBA
PADI Rescue Diver	April TBA
PADI Divemaster	May TBA
PADI Master Diver & Specialties	

PADI Open Water: This entry level program is designed to develop a competent recreational diver. The program consists of 5 classroom modules and 5 confined water (pool) modules after which certification is awarded upon completing 4 Open Water training dives. These dives are usually done on the weekend at one of the local quarries although they can also be accomplished on one of our local or Caribbean dive trips. It is also possible to arrange a referral to another PADI instructor at a dive destination of the student's choice. The program costs \$300 and includes all course materials, confined water dives, equipment rental and certification fees. The cost of the Open Water dives depends, of course, on where they are done. Students need to provide mask, fins, and snorkel.

PADI Advanced Open Water: This class provides a sampler of five specialty areas of diving. The core dives include navigation, night and deep diving. Two other dives are selected from among numerous specialties including multilevel, computer, naturalist, peak buoyancy, search & recovery, photography, boat, etc.

Need to get Open Water certified before spring?

The University Dive Center

NAUI & PADI

Two Weekend Format
February 19th - 29th
March 26th - April 5th

West End Shops

296-6306

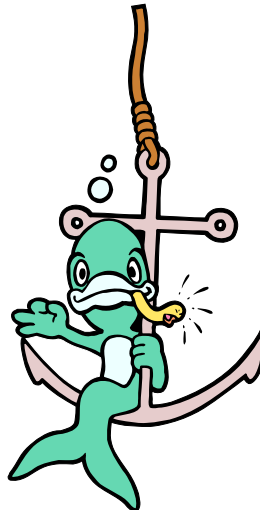
The course fee which includes the book, C-card and instruction, is \$150 locally or \$100 if done as part of one of our Caribbean trips. The cost of equipment and the cost of the dives are not included.

**Advanced class trip is planned for:
Freeport, Grand Bahama April 23-27**

PADI Medic First Aid: This is a very good all around first aid course including CPR with particular emphasis on diving related injuries. The course takes one full day (8 hours) and is usually held on the weekend. The cost is \$95 including all course materials and certification card.

PADI Rescue Diver: This course instructs the student on how to handle and assist in handling dive emergency situations. It sets the stage for PADI leadership training by incrementally encouraging the diver to take responsibility for others in the group and for the diving environment. The course includes academic modules and open water skills development followed by scenario enactment by the candidates to simulate real rescue situations. PADI Medic First Aid is suggested and a current CPR certification is required for certification as a Rescue Diver. The cost including the textbook, C-card and instruction is \$200.

PADI Divemaster: Full professional qualification with the world's largest certification agency. Class forming for spring. Please call for more information. Begin the self study portion today!



We Promise...You'll Get Hooked

Private & semi-private lessons with flexible schedules are available for most courses. Please contact Chip

Dive Training Begins With Physical Fitness!



Call Vicki Stewart - 978-3800



Who was J. S. Haldane?

Dr. John Scott Haldane was a Scottish physiologist who specialized in gas effects on the body. Commissioned by the Royal Navy to study decompression sickness in

fleet divers, Haldane began development of a tabular form of decompression schedule.

Using the results of other pressure studies, Haldane set out to prove that the human body could hold a fixed quantity of excess nitrogen before bubbles were formed. His first experiments with goats proved quite successful, and demonstrated that the body could tolerate a two-to-one reduction in ambient pressure with very few symptoms. Next, he began experimenting with volunteer divers. After successfully taking these divers to record depths and bringing them back to the surface without symptoms of decompression sickness, Haldane published the first dive tables in 1907.

Today, researchers continue Haldane's work by seeking out ways to make diving safer. Virtually all recreational dive tables and computers in use today are based on various modifications of J.S. Haldane's decompression tables. His principles also form the basis for much of current decompression practice, including the U.S. Navy decompression tables.

The Diver's Alert Network (DAN) researchers are operating Project Dive Exploration. This is the most extensive study of recreational diving ever conducted. With affiliate programs in Europe and Southeast Asia, DAN's goal is to record more than one million dive profiles in its database in order to produce statistically accurate analyses of diver characteristics and behavior that is associated with decompression illness.

If you would like to share your computerized dive profiles with DAN as part of the research project, contact DAN Research at (919) 684-2948, ext. 260 or Email: Sashley@jshaldane.mc.duke.edu

Catch their web site at
<http://www.dan.ycg.org/>



Bahamian Ecology Course Offered by PVCC -

Piedmont Virginia Community College is offering a lecture series on sub-tropical ecology during the spring semester. This course is an overview of marine ecology in the Bahamas and Caribbean.

Space is still available. Join **Chip Earle, Tony Feldmesser** and **Gary Eisenhuth** in signing up for this great opportunity to learn more about our diving environment.

Companioning this course is a field studies program in Andros in May of 1998. The course is a week long exploration and sailing adventure.

the class meets from 3:30 to 5:30 pm Wednesdays beginning February 11. Team instructors are our own **Norma Diehl** and **John Walsh**. Questions? Call Norma or John at PVCC Registration: 804-961-5264

Aquarium Field Trip

Sean Henderson has agreed to work out the details of a field trip to both the Baltimore Aquarium and the National Aquarium in Washington DC. Expect the date to be in late March or early April. Look for complete details here next month. **Robert Norman** and **Christi McNeil** from Richmond indicated they would like to join us for the trip!



Whale Watching Adventure

February 28th - Gary Eisenhuth has put together a trip to the Virginia Marine Science Museum. The price of \$28 includes entrance to the museum, IMAX theater and whale watching boat trip.

Preview VMSM facilities on the web at
<http://www.whro-pbs.org/vmsm/>

Options available to overnight and make it a two day experience. For full details and to make reservations contact Gary Eisenhuth at (540) 672-3558 or Email: geisenhu@pen.k12.va.us

Don't Just Do it...



DEW IT!

AT



Monday, February 9th - 7PM

Free for All! The Belize group will return with slides and stories to share. ... the University Dive Center crew who went to Bonaire will be there. ... Chris Thompson returns. Bring your slides/pics of your most recent trip and let's all just have a party!

Everyone with an interest is welcome, so please bring a friend. Remember, SeaDevils...

“We DEW Scuba”



SeaDevil Divers

300 Preston Avenue, Suite 410
Charlottesville, VA 22902



DEW Scuba

Monday, February 9th

Monday, March 9th

Monday, April 13th

7PM



Address Correction Requested

Virginia offer some of the best wreck diving anywhere

Virginia Shipwrecks					
Vessel	Depth	Hull Type	Size	Look for	Skill Level
1800 Line	75	Freighter?	300?x?x?	Game, Artifacts	Novice
Benson	90-105	Tanker	465x60x33	Game, Artifacts	Intermediate
Brass Spike	85	Transport?	?	Game, Artifacts	Intermediate
Cuyahoga	90-100	Cutter	124x24x8	Artifacts	Intermediate
Chenango	125-135	Freighter	2 Sections	Game, Artifacts	Advanced
Edgar Clark	100	Liberty	?	Game	Intermediate
Equipoise	100-140	Freighter	Large	Game, Artifacts	Intermediate
Eureka	115	Freighter	351x42x32	Artifacts	Intermediate
Francis Powell	90	Tanker	431x59x33	Game, Artifacts	Intermediate
Gulf Hustler	75	Trawler	80?	Game	Novice Ocean
Hanks	70	Clammer	Small	Game	Novice Ocean
James Havilan	100	Liberty	?	Game	Intermediate
John Morgan	110	Liberty	423x57x34	Game, Artifacts	Intermediate
Kingston Ceylonite	60	Trawler	160x26x14	Game	Novice Ocean
Kurn	90	Tugboat	90?	Game, Artifacts	Novice Ocean
Lillian Luckenbach	100	Freighter	448x60x28	Artifacts	Intermediate
Ocean Venture	130-160	Freighter	425x57x34	Artifacts	Advanced
Ricks	80	Trawler	Small	Game	Novice Ocean
Santore	60	Cargo	449x57x34	Game	Novice Ocean
Tiger	60	Tanker	410x56x29	Game	Novice Ocean
Tower Reef	50-80	Various	Various	Game	Novice Ocean
Webster	100	Liberty	?	Game	Intermediate