

Deep Blue

2010



THIRD QUARTER

TD SCUBA • 816-525-3487

IN FULL SWING



DIVE SEASON IS HERE! SO GRAB YOUR WETSUIT, GRAB YOUR FINNIES, AND MEET US AT THE LAKE!

EVERYONE AT TD SCUBA IS GEARING UP FOR A HOT AND BUSY SUMMER, AND IT JUST WON'T BE THE SAME WITHOUT YOU THERE. DON'T FORGET TO STOP BY THE SHOP TO SIGN UP FOR SOME FUN DIVING DURING OUR NEXT LAKE TRIP. SUMMERTIME'S ALSO A GREAT TIME TO GET IN SOME MORE CERTS., SO IF THERE'S A CLASS YOU'VE BEEN WANTING TO TAKE, GET YOURSELF ON THE CLASS ROSTER AND DIVE IN!

WE'VE GOT A LOT OF EXCITING THINGS COMING UP ON THE CALENDAR, SO BE SURE TO CHECK OUT THE HIGHLIGHTS HERE, AND THEN GO TO TDSCUBA.COM FOR THE FULL SCOOP.

IN THIS NEWSLETTER, CHECK OUT THE SALUTE TO OUR NEWLY PROMOTED PADI PROFESSIONALS, INCLUDING AN ARTICLE BY ED BOLES! THE SHOP IS LUCKY ENOUGH TO HAVE A NUMBER OF TALENTED PROS LENDING THEIR SKILLS TO OUR FAVORITE SPORT.

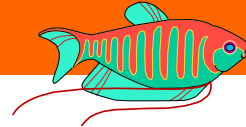


Cool Stuff Calendar



- July 13 Stingray Dive Club Meeting at Bullseye
- July 24-25 Beaver Lake (Stingray Dive Club)
- August 10 Stingray Dive Club Meeting at Bullseye
- August 14 Stingray Dive Club Annual Picnic
- August 28-29 Beaver Lake (Pirate Weekend)
- September 14 Stingray Dive Club Meeting at Bullseye
- September 25-26 Beaver Lake Project AWARE Cleanup
- October 17-24 Cozumel




CHECK OUT THE ONLINE VERSION FOR MORE DETAILS @
TDSCUBA.COM!



THE EVOLUTION TO OPEN WATER SCUBA INSTRUCTOR BY ED BOLES

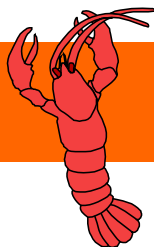


Today was a day that I will surely never forget. I have taken some really hard tests over my days, but the PADI IE was by far the most challenging. I think it was more a mental game than anything else. As the hours pass, and I come home to my family and my friends, I am continuing to get a better perspective of what has happened. Andrew and Terry from the beginning have drove home the concept that IE stands for it's easy. I would say that the concepts and the requirements are easy, but what occurs is a process of becoming a guide into the underwater world. Like all things diving, an evolution occurs, some times it is slow, other times it is very fast. Today I made one those big steps. As it is my intention to thank those involved in my evolution, I need to start where it all began, just a few short years ago.



Richard Murphy, my best friend who is not family, started Dan and I down this long path in the fall of 2007. He thought it would be a cool idea for the 3 Kings, what we call our "gang", to go on a cruise. One thing led to another and we ended up at TD Scuba in Lee's Summit to do our Open Water Certification. Warren Zeller and Jason Stahl, had only done a few private classes at Beaver Lake and where very apprehensive about teaching us. It didn't get any better when Richard showed up with more beer then they did. After a weekend of rainy weather, and a lot of apprehension on my part, I was Certified as an Open Water Diver. I remember telling Warren that I never wanted to dive anywhere that was cold and deep. More about that later. Warren has been and still is a guiding light for how I behave as dive professional. He has kept me grounded, inspired me , but most of all reflective of why I dive. Warren I can only simply say thank you, because there are not the proper words to express my gratitude for your patience, your guidance and most of all your steadfast approach to keeping me standing up straight and looking at what diving means to the both of us.

Let me talk just a bit about Jason Stahl. Do worry my friend it is all good. Jason and I had only worked together briefly at the pool up until the early spring of 2010. Sure we knew who each other where, but we had never really worked together or dove together. He, I and the shop, TD Scuba, made a trip to Bonaire, NA in February. Jason and Janelle, his awesome wife, had never traveled with shop before and where not sure how things would work out. To put it mildly was simply a rock star trip. I ended up the trip with many of my other given names. I will simply say it was on Valentines day that I was christened Valentino. It was under Jason's confident eye that I certified my first students. I will never forget the trust and confidence he placed it me. Jason is like that long lost godparent that comes every great once in a while with the most timely of gifts. His was the first to show me that I could teach in open water. Jason thank you so much for birthing me into the water. My Open Water Certification Card has your name on it, and in my opinion, it might be the most important certification I have.



THE EVOLUTION TO OPEN WATER SCUBA INSTRUCTOR

Terry Davis then got into the act. You see I, like a lot of us, I was hooked. I couldn't get enough. But what does a diver do in January in Missouri? Sure I know a dry suit, but that was a bit of a stretch at the time. Because up until that point I was a Warren Zeller diver, 80 feet of visibility, and 80 degree water. Looking back, when I met Terry, my path to going pro started. Just know at this point I earned the EANx specialty and bought a dry suit. Imagine that? Terry I am going to talk a lot more about you so don't go away.

So I have this dry suit, right? Somebody has got to teach how to use it. Here is where I met my mentor, my friend, and most importantly my role model showed up. It is Erik Maxwell. Erik has taught me so much. He is the one that really taught me how to "be" in the water, not just dive. He has shown me so much by just being who he is. Erik words can not express how I feel about how you have allowed me to evolve to who I am today. It is because of you that I am a PADI pro. I just hope that I can be as good as you are. I am not sure that I will ever get there, but you set the standard in my eyes. And for that I am truly thankful that you were there on that cold January morning teaching me to dive that suit. You taught me how to dive warm, dry, and most all comfortable in my favorite place Bonne Terre mine. You have led me, pushed me, polished me and most importantly changed me. You turned me into a DM and PADI pro. You are the reason I went to the IE and for a large part why I was able to walk in and out confident, strong, and ready to be an instructor. But somebody else got way involved too.



Can you guess who that was? Yep it was Andrew Statler. Up until mid 2007 I only knew Andrew by name. I had never dove with him, spent any time with him, even knew his face. Our friendship and relationship started very slowly with a trip to Mermet Springs, but in the end has grown to be the one that cherish the most. You see after Mermet, we roomed together in Cozumel in spring of 2008. You will have to read the note that I wrote about my experience, but this is where Andrew and I became friends. You see Andrew is not pretentious, boastful about who he is, but we all know how good he is.

Andrew will make you learn it right. He will teach you, counsel you, and spend an infinite amount of time to allow you to get to the point where you need to be. He is simply the best teacher I have had, and believe me I had a few. Terry Davis once said, if you want to know how to be a dive pro, just look at Andrew. He is simply it. Andrew I stand in awe of who you are, not just as a dive professional, but how you took me under your wing. You gathered me up like one of your girls. You treated me like one your closest family members. You are the reason I teach. I count it as one my highest honors to call you my friend, not because of what PADI thinks you are, but because of what you are to me. I remember once you called me your Bud. You can't know what that means to me. I just hope that you can see in me, just a little of what is in you. I will never reach where you are because of who you are. Thank you doesn't even approach how I feel. So I will simply smile, reach out and grab your hand, shed a tear or two, and give you a hug because that is the only way I know how to express it. I will not say thank you because talking just doesn't work here: it is not strong enough to work.



THE EVOLUTION TO OPEN WATER SCUBA INSTRUCTOR



Terry now its your turn . Terry and I had and still have long talks. He will tell you that I had a head full of cobwebs, doubt and worry as a novice diver. Hours we talked about air consumption, scary scenarios in the water, and just all around bad things that I thought could happen.

All this time Terry simply said Ed if you dive you will get it, you will see that I speak the truth, just listen. Terry acts like a true daddy to all of us. We are his endearing children. He sees us as young ones just trying to grow up. He molds us, shapes us, teaches how to first walk, then ride a bike, and finally how to drive the sports car. Terry is the one guy that I have always been able to go to. He is a lot like my late grandfather. He has seen it all, screwed it all up, and has simply found the best way to be a diver. I once wondered why Terry dives like he does. It's not because he doesn't like to be all into the group, it's because he is watching his children play. Just as I see my girls play outside, he is watching us. Terry in the up-most humility I count it as my very greatest diving honor to be one of your kids. When I look back hopefully 30 or 40 years from now I hope that I can have water children like you have. You can always tell a kid by looking at their parents. I think what others see in TD Scuba divers in obvious.

Then there are my diving buds. But I must start with Dan. He has ALWAYS been with me. We often joke about there is not a situation that will cause either of us to get out of the water by our-self. By this we mean that no matter what happens, even what you think, we will not leave each other in the water. You see that is true, now we won't ever get there, but it is our way of expressing how we feel about each other. We know each other, support each other, and most of all trust each other. Dan so many times I have said thank you, but today as we turn into instructors, you need to know that today WE did the IE. Not one of us or the group of us, but as a buddy team. The water gods put us as # 5 and # 6 . We entered the water as buddy's and got out as buddy's. How many divers can say that? You where there for me and I hope I was there for you. Like how we are in the water is how we where today, as team, two lifelong friends that did something amazing together. Just think about who was there this weekend with they person they dive with the most, it was you and me. A wide grinned, teeth showing, big ass smile is about the only thing that really gets close to how I feel about what WE did today together. Dude we did it, we did it together, and most of all we had fun doing it.



I couldn't not mention the Orange team, Jess Pouge, Jason Harvey, Terry More, Weldon Wright, Dan Boles, and the whole IDC staff all the way up to Ernie Miller. Guys we simply rocked the IE. It was because you guys that we all did so well. Sure Ernie did a lot but we did it as a team. Pushing forward the positives, mitigating the negatives, and just about acing the whole thing as a group. Ernie thank you for prep,



THE EVOLUTION TO OPEN WATER SCUBA INSTRUCTOR (CONT.)



the grinding, the pushing for perfection, and confidence you had in us. I can only hope that the way we teach moving forward is a awesome legacy to what you and the staff showed us. I have to point out Chuck Russel because of what he did for me today. Chuck we have only known each other for a few, but long days, but thank you so much for the prep you did, the lift bag, and spending the time with us. I don't think I will ever forget it.

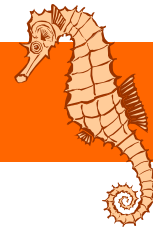
There is one last person left, and yes I saved the best for last. It is my friend, my soul mate and my balance. It is my wife Renee. She has made all of who I am as a PADI pro, a diver and an instructor possible. Simply stated she has let me go, let me stay, and stepped in at EVERY point I have ask her to. She is the single most important reason I am who I am today. Renee is the best mom I know, she has looked after our girls when I have been away, kept me in just one place at a time, and most, most, most, importantly supported me the whole way through.

Without her understanding, patience, and love what I did today simply would not have happened. She doesn't dive, but in a way she does. She is there with me almost every time I dive. I can see her and feel her. She is one of things I think about most in the water. How she loves me, and supports my passion for being in the water. Many times I have wrote Ed loves Renee in the muck on a wreck, or in the sand. It's a water tower graffiti kind a thing. I know it won't stay, but I know that the ocean or lake can feel how I feel about her. In the end I know that the place I that I love the most, knows the person I love the most. Hopefully that is enough to say thank you to the water.

If I have left you out please know that it wasn't on purpose. I have been supported, buoyed up, and been helped by so many people. All I can say is thank you. You have all been a part of who I am and for that I am truly grateful.

WOW! THANKS TO ONE OF THE NEWEST TD SCUBA SHOP PROFESSIONALS FOR TELLING THE STORY, FROM BEGINNING TO END, OF WHAT IT WAS LIKE TO BECOME AN INSTRUCTOR. THE HARD WORK AND DEDICATION THAT GOES INTO THIS UNDERTAKING SHOULD BE CELEBRATED! CONGRATS, ED, ON YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENT!





Contest Winner

LAST QUARTER, YOU HAD TO ANSWER THIS QUESTION:

WHAT'S YOUR CAN'T-LIVE-WITHOUT-IT DIVING ACCESSORY? IT CAN BE GEAR OR GOOP OR ANYTHING YOU WANT IT TO BE. HOW DOES IT MAKE YOUR DIVING LIFE BETTER? DID IT SAVE A DIVE? AN ENTIRE TRIP? THE BEST, MOST CREATIVE ANSWER WINS A PRIZE! YES, YOU READ IT RIGHT—A PRIZE! DON'T MISS OUT ON THE FUN.

CONGRATS TO TONY BLOGUMAS FOR HIS CREATIVE REPLY! HIS CAN'T-DIVE-WITHOUT-IT ACCESSORY? WELL, HIS DIVE BUDDY, OF COURSE! HOPE YOU ENJOY YOUR NEW SCUBA TEE, TONY. THANKS FOR PLAYING! WATCH FOR FUTURE CONTESTS IN UPCOMING

Boy Scouts

YOU MAY BE AWARE THAT RECENTLY TD SCUBA HAS EXPANDED OUR ENDEAVOR TO REACH OUT TO YOUTH AND SHOW THEM THE ENJOYMENT AND BENEFIT OF THE SPORT WE ALL LOVE. IN ADDITION TO OUR NEWLY-FORMED YOUTH PROGRAM, TD HAS ALSO BEEN PARTICIPATING IN A PROGRAM WITH THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA.

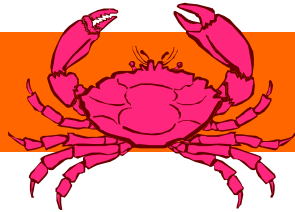
THIS IS AN EXCITING NEW MERIT BADGE OPPORTUNITY FOR SCOUTS, AND IT'S ALSO AN OPPORTUNITY FOR US TO WORK WITH FUTURE DIVERS!

IN THIS NEW PROGRAM, SCOUTS COMPLETE AN OPEN WATER CERTIFICATION THE SAME WAY ANY OTHER NEW DIVER WOULD. THEY WORK THROUGH THE MANUAL AND TAKE THE QUIZZES, AND THEN THEY PUT THEIR SKILLS TO WORK IN THE WATER.

SCOUTS CAN EARN A SCUBA PATCH OR A SNORKELING PATCH WHILE WORKING WITH US.

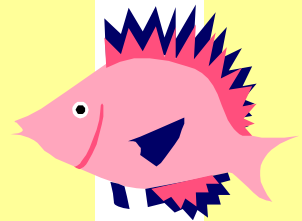
BE SURE TO SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT OUR GROWING PROGRAMS FOR KIDS AND YOUTH, AND IF YOU KNOW OF SCOUTS THAT MAY WISH TO PARTICIPATE, SEND THEM OUR WAY. WE'RE EXCITED TO INTRODUCE THE SPORT WE ALL LOVE TO THE NEXT GENERATION.

AND DON'T FORGET ABOUT OUR BUBBLEMAKERS AND PADI SEAL TEAM PROGRAMS FOR ANY YOUNGSTER YOU'D LIKE TO SEE GET IN



Congratulations to the Grads!

BARTEL, SHAUN – OPEN WATER
 BENNETT, ANNE – ADVANCED OPEN WATER, DEEP DIVER, NIGHT DIVER, BOAT DIVER, DRIFT DIVER, PEAK PERFORMANCE BUOYANCY
 BENNETT, JACOB – JUNIOR OPEN WATER
 BENNETT, RICH – OPEN WATER
 CLEMENT, JOSHUA – OPEN WATER
 COLLMAN, BRIAN – DISCOVER SCUBA DIVING 2
 CONARD, TIMOTHY – NIGHT DIVER, BOAT DIVER, DRIFT DIVER
 DENHAM, RANDY – ADVANCED OPEN WATER
 DYER, EVELYN – ADVANCED OPEN WATER
 FIELDS, RANDY – OPEN WATER
 FRANCOIS, AUSTIN – DISCOVER SCUBA DIVING 2
 GARRISON, JEREMY – OPEN WATER
 GAY, BONNIE – DIGITAL UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHER (L2)
 GAY, RICKEY – DIGITAL UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHER (L2)
 GONNELLO, ANTHONY – DISCOVER SCUBA DIVING 2
 HALL, COREY – OPEN WATER
 HARRIS, STEPHANIE – OPEN WATER
 HARVEY, JASON – MASTER SCUBA DIVER, UNDERWATER NAVIGATOR, WRECK DIVER, DRIFT DIVER, PEAK PERFORMANCE BUOYANCY
 HEDRICK, MICHELE – SEARCH & RECOVERY
 HEMMEL, JEFFREY – OPEN WATER
 HOLT, ANGELA – DRIFT DIVER, BOAT DIVER, DEEP DIVER, PEAK PERFORMANCE BUOYANCY, RESCUE DIVER, DIGITAL UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHER (L2)
 HOLT, MARK – DRIFT DIVER, BOAT DIVER, DEEP DIVER, RESCUE DIVER
 ISRAEL, KAREN – EFR PRIMARY & SECONDARY CARE
 JOHNSON, CODY – OPEN WATER
 JONES, ANDREA – OPEN WATER
 KADLAC, TRACY – EFR PRIMARY & SECONDARY CARE
 KIRKPATRICK, TYLER – DISCOVER SCUBA DIVING 2
 LEDBETTER, JASON – DISCOVER SCUBA DIVING 2
 LEDBETTER, ROBERT – DISCOVER SCUBA DIVING 2
 LUFFMAN, MICAH – DRY SUIT
 MCALISTER, CORY – DISCOVER SCUBA DIVING 2
 MERGEN, MATTHEW – OPEN WATER
 MORRISON, AARON – JUNIOR OPEN WATER
 NEAL, RUSSELL – OPEN WATER
 NOLAND, HEATHER – OPEN WATER
 OVERBAY, ALEX – DISCOVER SCUBA DIVING 2
 OVERBAY, JACOB – DISCOVER SCUBA DIVING 2
 OVERBAY, TRAVIS – DISCOVER SCUBA DIVING 2



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Fulfilling the urge
to submerge.



Congratulations to the Grads! (Cont.)

PETTEGREW, ANDREW – OPEN WATER
POTTER, JACK – OPEN WATER
POTTER, JERRY – OPEN WATER
PROM, JAMES – OPEN WATER
PRUETTING, JAKE – OPEN WATER
ROGERS, QUINTON – OPEN WATER
ROGERS, TODD – OPEN WATER
SHAW, TYSON – SEARCH & RECOVERY
SIMS, DAVID – OPEN WATER, DRY SUIT
SMITH, CHRISTOPHER – DISCOVER SCUBA DIVING 2
SMITH, CODY – DISCOVER SCUBA DIVING 2
SMITH, CONNOR – DISCOVER SCUBA DIVING 2
STATLER, DESIREE – EFR PRIMARY & SECONDARY CARE
SUTHERLIN, JAN – ADVANCED OPEN WATER
WADLEIGH, MARK – DRY SUIT
WOLFE, GREGORY – OPEN WATER, DRY SUIT



CONGRATULATIONS TO TD'S NEWEST
INSTRUCTORS:

DAN BOLES

ED BOLES

TERRY MORE

AND WE CAN'T FORGET A HUGE
CONGRATS TO ANDREW STATLER ON
BECOMING A COURSE DIRECTOR!

WAY TO GO!