



**LONG ISLAND NETWORK DIVERS**  
**SCUBA CLUB NEWSLETTER**

**Volume 4, May 2007, Edition 20**

**Club Officers**

President .....Bruce Fink  
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Secretary ..... Demetrius "Dimi" Lutz  
Newsletter Editor ... Paul Mila  
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## I. Club News

### SCUBA CLUB MEETING MINUTES

MAY 2007

The May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2007 meeting of Long Island Network Divers was both informative and inspiring.

We had the opportunity to host **Chris Barnikel** of the **Bermuda Department of Tourism**. Chris briefed us on the accommodations, possible travel arrangements and diving accessibility to those with an interest in diving in Bermuda.

Afterwards, **Martha Katz** also presented some general information regarding the **upcoming dive season** in our local waters and some **tentative activities** planned for the upcoming year.

We also had the privilege to honor **Allie Lipsay** as our **Junior Diver of the Year 2006**. Allie spoke of her recent dive trip to Puerto Rico and how she was able to earn her Scuba Diver certification despite facing difficulties.

#### Presentations:

Our first speaker, **Chris Barnikel**, presented club members with information applicable to those wishing to dive in Bermuda. He mentioned that Jet Blue flights to Bermuda are both conveniently accessible from major airports as well as being quite affordable. He also noted that travelers must go through customs when traveling to Bermuda.

Lodging accommodations are numerous and varied within Bermuda. For example, divers have their choice of full-resort hotels (such as the Grotto Bay Beach Resort) which provide all-inclusive accommodations, ocean-view and ocean-front living quarters and even on-site scuba shops. Divers also have available to them cottage colonies which consist of cabana properties. Such accommodations are underscored by their value and safety. For those seeking affordable and well-maintained accommodations, traditional bed and breakfast style lodgings are also available to those traveling to Bermuda.

Diving in Bermuda consists of reef diving as well as wreck diving and is enjoyable for both novice and more experienced divers alike. Upon completion of his talk, Chris was available for questions and provided more concise details to those club members interested in planning a trip to Bermuda.

**Martha Katz** providing us with an overview of the upcoming dive season and tentative activities available to our club's members.

In August and September, a dive trip to Block Island is planned via the *Sea Turtle*.

Frank Persico, captain of the *Seahawk*, has informed us that diving is now on! Saturday dives will be primarily to deep depths and Sunday dives will be reserved for shallow-dives (less than 80 feet.) Diving on the *Seahawk* is subject to change with respect to weather conditions and at Frank's discretion (note, that although Frank speaks to God, he is NOT God!)

Diving, will also take place via the *Jeanne II* located in Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn.

The club will also attempt to host at least one weekend per month at Dutch Springs.

Our president, **Bruce Fink**, also informed us that Brown Stone Scuba Park located in Connecticut is also available to divers and is more accessible in terms of driving time and with respect to the number of divers. A possible trip may be arranged.

**Martha** further informed us that Diving Unlimited International (DUI) will host an event at Dutch Springs in which divers can try and be fitted for dry suits. The event will take place on the weekend of May 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. A barbecue lunch will be available.

Our dive meeting culminated in the honoring of **Allie Lipsay** as our 2006 Junior Diver of the Year. On a recent dive trip to Puerto Rico, 15 year-old Allie became a certified Scuba Diver (she was only 14 at the time of her certification!) Allie read us an eloquently written account of her experience in which she mentioned numerous difficulties. Despite encountering these challenges, Allie kept her composure and was able to handle all of the obstacles that came her way. Allie's dream is to work with dolphins and this dream was enhanced upon seeing dolphins during her certification dive. Congratulations, Allie and we wish you the best in pursuing your dreams!

Our last meeting exemplified all the fun that we members of Long Island Network Divers have in every meeting that we hold. Our activities, supplemented by our monthly meetings make us a truly unique team in which we all take pride. Please tell your friends and family about us!

**Best wishes to all and see ya next meeting Wednesday, June 6th!**

**Club Meeting Notes provided by Demetrius "Dimi" Lutz**

*For any comments and corrections regarding this summary, please feel free to contact Dimi at the following e-mail address: [paleolutz@worldnet.att.net](mailto:paleolutz@worldnet.att.net)*

## ***II. The Story Behind The Photo***

**Demetrius “Dimi” Lutz** contributed this month’s photo. Dimi was diving on Laurel Reef near La Parguera Puerto Rico.



**Here is Demetreus’ *Story Behind The Photo*:**

**This is a picture of the upper reef crest of Laurel Reef approximately 1.5 miles south of the La Parguera Marine Biological Field Station, in La Parguera Puerto Rico. In the picture are various gorgonians, sponges (dead man’s fingers), corals and coralline algae. Although I do not take pictures frequently, this is an example of a “lucky shot.”**

**It is a simple shot but it is especially meaningful to me because it depicts the basic framework of a fragile ecosystem, the coral reef. I feel fortunate to be able to experience such a wonder and to know that coral reefs are centers of high biological diversity: sometimes the lil’ guys play the biggest roles!**

### **III. SPECIAL FEATURE:**

#### **BONAIRE FEBRUARY 2007 ADVENTURE**

We had a great time in Bonaire. 30 people went on this great trip: 22 from Long Island and 8 from New York City. Everyone got along great and the diving was spectacular, the company couldn't have been better.

Dive club members who made the trip were Larry Mack, Tom Hartill, Martha Weisberg, Lissanne Lange, Chris Poppke, Jody Gingold, John Daly, Steven and Martha Katz, John Caraccia, Tom Swift, Jim and Beth Steers, Vincent Manetta, Debbie Fusco, George Getz.

We made 4 to 5 dives each day, and each dive was better than the last. We really enjoyed a dive site that we named "THE SEA HORSE RANCH" due to the number of sea horses in one dive.

The diversity of sea life was amazing! During the week we saw turtles of all sizes, barracudas, sharks, huge parrot fish, French angel fish, and thousand more.

Come to the store, to see the complete DVD with pictures and video of the great event.

**WE WILL ALL RETURN IN MARCH 2008, JOIN US ON ANOTHER GREAT ADVENTURE!**

Some members were still in, or under, water when we took the group picture below, since we couldn't fit them all on this boat.



#### **IV. GETAWAYS: Scuba Network Adventures**

##### **Next trips: 2007**

May 12-20 Palau \$3,875 ( includes airfare)  
JUNE 10-15 COZUMEL \$ 895 at the Occidental – all inclusive  
JULY 13 - 16 FLORIDA \$499  
OCT. 21-28 SEA OF CORTEZ \$ 949.00  
Oct. 27 –Nov.3 BELIZE AGGRESSOR \$2,395 All inclusive  
FEB 10-17, 2008 MALDIVES AGGRESSOR \$2,495 All inclusive  
MARCH 23-30, 2008 BONAIRE, at the Divi Resort

Prices subject to change at time of booking.

All packages except Palau do not include airfare.

**Contact Scuba Network for specific details about each trip.**

**Check our web site [WWW.SCUBALONGISLAND.COM](http://WWW.SCUBALONGISLAND.COM)**

**Call 516-997-4864 or email [scubaclub@aol.com](mailto:scubaclub@aol.com)**

#### **V. Scuba Network Training: Good Divers Keep Learning!**

##### **SPECIAL PRICE FOR DIVE CLUB MEMBERS:**

**SIGN FOR ANY BEGINNER OPEN WATER COURSE IN MAY AND GET 15% OFF, OR IF THE MEMBER IS PURCHASING THE CLASSES.**

##### **Certification Courses:**

Express Friday/Sat/Sun. \$189

MAY 18,19,20

JUNE 29,30, JULY 1

Weeknight classes \$169 6PM TO 10PM.

MAY 14,16,18

JUNE 22, 26,29

##### **Nitrox Course: JUNE 16 , Space is very limited \$150.00.**

Includes Books. Sign up as soon as possible or give this as a gift to a friend.

***CPR JUL.08 CPR includes: CPR, Defibrillator, First Aid certification and Marine injuries all for \$120 including books. Space limited.***

***DEMP MAY 12 AT 9 AM, This course includes Oxygen Provider, Oxygen Advanced, Neurological evaluations \$160.***

***Advanced course: JUNE.19 7:30 PM. Price \$29.50 plus books.***

***Master diver course: MAY 21 AT 7:30PM***

***Price \$99 plus books, includes 6 lectures and 1 pool session.***

**Scuba Network Continuing Education**  
*Call (516) 997-4864 to register for classes*

## **SPECIAL EVENTS**

**MAY 19-20 DUTCH SPRINGS  
DRY SUIT DEMOSTRATIONS**

**DUI will be there, and you can try a dry suit and test it in the water.**

**Special prizes, raffles, and a barbeque all for \$8.00 a day plus the park entrance fee. Tickets on sale at the store.**

**DUTCH SPRINGS CERTIFICATION DIVES  
OPEN WATER – ADVANCED – MASTER DIVES**

**MAY 26 – 27**

**JUNE 23- 24**

**BLOCK ISLAND WEEKEND SPECIAL**

**AUG. 25-26 – SOLD OUT**

**SEP.29-30 - SPACE AVAILABLE**

***This Month's Scuba Network Featured Specials  
For Dive Club Members***

***Don't forget:*** Club members receive special discounts on selected items, trips, etc. Check with Martha for details on special discounts.

***Reminder:*** ***You must use your club membership card to receive your club member discount.***

**Regulator:** complete CRESSISUB SET-up

**Dive Computers:**

Atmos WRIST 2 Nitrox/air

**Dacor Back-up Mask:** Have an extra mask in your gear bag.

**WETSUITS (STOCK ITEMS)**

**ONE PIECE PARWAY 7 MM SUITS –50% OFF**

3mm --10% OFF

**.B/C'S 10% OFF.**

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**VI. Classifieds:**

**Vacation Rentals:** *Beachfront Condo in Cozumel.*

For details click on [www.cozumelisparadise.com](http://www.cozumelisparadise.com) or [www.vrbo.com/54454](http://www.vrbo.com/54454) or email to: [pjmila@hotmail.com](mailto:pjmila@hotmail.com)

**General Business:** Technology problems? Call in the experts: **Dark Arts Consulting** will help unravel all your technology issues. **Call Lee at 646-228-2006.**

**See you at the next club meeting:  
Wednesday, June 6th, 7:30pm.**

**EMAIL NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS, COMMENTS & SUGGESTIONS  
TO: [pjmila@hotmail.com](mailto:pjmila@hotmail.com)**