



LONG ISLAND NETWORK DIVERS
SCUBA CLUB NEWSLETTER

Volume 4, December 2007, Edition 24

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2007 YEAR-END ISSUE

I. Club News

SCUBA CLUB MEETING MINUTES

NOVEMBER 14, 2007

Paul Mila led this month's meeting in the absence of **Martha Katz**.

He began the meeting with a quick reminder that the **Holiday party** will be held at Cozymel's Restaurant and that prices for attendance would vary according to the number of years that each member had belonged to the dive club.

Paul also was our guest speaker, giving a presentation on the observation of humpback whales in Tonga.

He explained that his trip originated in New York and continued on to Los Angeles connected to a flight to Fiji and culminated in Tonga. Paul mentioned that humpbacks are a species in crisis due to hunting by the Russians and Japanese as well as wounds delivered by marine life such as cookie cutter sharks and parasites. Despite such endangerments humpbacks can still be seen as they travel throughout their migration routes located between Antarctica and Tonga.

As the whales swim, observers can witness numerous types of behavior exhibited by humpbacks such as tail lobbing, breaching and the slapping of the pectoral fins, termed fin slapping. These behaviors are believed to serve as a means of communication between individual humpbacks, the dislodging of parasites or simply for enjoyment. Females typically stay with their young and protect them from threatening marine life (or divers that venture too close!) Further, it is believed that the act of giving off bubbles by other whales or bubbles given off by divers as they breathe is considered belligerent behavior thereby possibly instigating an attack by the offended whale. Divers are consequently warned to keep their distance from the whales during observations.

Paul concluded his talk by entertaining questions that members had regarding whales.

The meeting was adjourned immediately after the question and answer session.

For any errors or comments with regard to the information contained in this summary, please contact Demetrius "Dimi" Lutz at paleolutz@worldnet.att.net or at (917) 392-8333.

HOLIDAY PARTY UPDATE
DECEMBER 5TH, 2007

Hello friends:

We had a great party last night! I loved seeing you all there, what a nice crowd.

The food was great, but the best was the company and the spirits of all of you, every one was smiling and happy and relaxed...

The raffle winners were:

*Two tank dive trip aboard the dive vessel JOHN JACK -- KAY BELTH
(Donated by John Christy)*

*Two tank dive trip aboard the dive vessel SEA HAWK -- LARRY MACK
(Donated by Frank-Sea Hawk)*

*Two tank dive trip aboard the dive vessel JEANNE II -- JANE MORRIS
(Donated by Scuba Network)*

*Book, Whales' Angels -- Wendy Huston; written and donated by Paul Mila
Book, Dangerous Waters -- Patrick Slater; also written and donated by Paul*

Thanks to all for being there and supporting the dive club.

With the Raffles the club made \$225.

So we will have a great start for the New Year!

REMEMBER, NEXT MEETING WILL BE FEBRUARY 06 NOT IN JANUARY

HAVE A HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON!

MARTHA/LONG ISLAND DIVERS/ HOUSEKEEPER

II. The Story Behind The Photo

Paul Mila contributed this month's photo, titled ***Big Eye!***
Paul was diving with Humpbacks in the Tonga Islands, South-east of Fiji.



Here is Paul's *Story Behind The Photo*:

Our NAI'A group was snorkeling and free diving with a pod of Humpback Whales. The whales were all around us and you didn't know where to turn next. All of a sudden a large Humpback surfaced next to me for a breath. I took the shot just as he (or she?) was eyeballing me with a baseball-size eye. Talk about the thrill of a lifetime!

**Photo was taken using my new SeaLife DC600 camera (this camera is available at Scuba Network), with wide-angle lens in natural light.
This photo is a featured photo on the SeaLife website.**

III. SPECIAL FEATURE:

No submission this month. Club members: We're always looking for you to contribute interesting stories or featured articles.

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IV. GETAWAYS

Scuba Network Adventures

Next trips: 2007- 2008

FLORIDA – FEB. 29-MAR03 \$499.00 – Boynton Beach Florida

BONAIRE - APR. 5-12, 2008 \$1,249.00

HAWAII - APR. 5-12, 2008 \$2,450.00 (LIVEBOARD)

MALDIVES – MAR. 22-29, 2009 \$2,650 (LIVEBOARD)

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

Or: WWW.SCUBANETWORK.COM

Call 516-997-4864 or email scubaclass@aol.com

V. Scuba Network Training: Good Divers Keep Learning!

SPECIAL PRICE FOR MEMBERS

SIGN FOR ANY BEGINNER OPEN WATER COURSE AND GET 15% OFF FOR DIVE MEMBERS OR IF THE MEMBER IS PURCHASING THE CLASSES.

Certification Courses:

Express Friday/Sat/Sun. \$189
JANUARY 11-12-13

Weeknight classes: \$169 6PM TO 10PM.
JAN.14-17-23-24

Nitrox Course: JAN.26 9 AM Space is very limited \$150.00.

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

CPR TBA 9AM: CPR includes: CPR, Defibrillator, First Aid certification and Marine injuries all for \$120 including books. Space limited.

DEMP TBA, This course includes Oxygen Provider, Oxygen Advanced, Neurological evaluations \$160.

ADVANCED COURSE: JAN.15 AT 7:30 PM

Price \$29.50 plus books.

MASTER DIVER COURSE: TBA

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

First class will determine schedule for other classes as per students request.

DRY SUIT COURSE: TBA \$149.00

Two classes, one pool session. Pool for Dry suit July 26, Thursday.

Scuba Network Continuing Education

Call (516) 997-4864 to register for classes

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SPECIAL EVENTS

NEXT DIVE CLUB MEETING: FEB.06 - WEDNESDAY 7:30PM

Scuba Network Featured Specials

For Dive Club Members

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS SALE DEC.12-24, 2007

Regulators –get 10% off (instead of 5%)

B/C's – get 12% off (instead of 5%)

Gauges, computers 14% off (instead of 5%)

Dacor Back-up Mask: Have an extra mask in your gear bag, only \$9.95.

WHEELED BAGS 20% OFF

WETSUITS (STOCK ITEMS)

ONE PIECE PARWAY 7 MM SUITS –50% OFF

7MM NEOPRENE TWO PIECE --20% OFF

A COMPLETE REGULATOR PACKAGE – B/C REG, OCTO, GAUGES, AND GET A FREE REGULATOR BAG (\$24.50 VALUE)

All accessories: 10% OFF WHEN YOU BUY PACKAGES

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***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.*

VI. Classifieds:

Vacation Rentals: Beachfront Condo in Cozumel.

For details click on www.cozumelisparadise.com or www.vrbo.com/54454 or email to: 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, February 6th, 7:30pm.

EMAIL NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS, COMMENTS & SUGGESTIONS TO:
pjmila@hotmail.com