



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

**Volume 5, April 2008, Edition 25**

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**DOUBLE ISSUE: MARCH & APRIL 2008**

## I. Club News

### SCUBA CLUB MEETING MINUTES

**APRIL 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2008**

**Martha** began our meeting by introducing our guest speaker, **Adam Altman**, a crewmember of the local dive boat *Eagle's Nest*. Adam has been a fellow Long Island diver since 1986 and focuses much of his diving on the waters surrounding Long Island's shores and further into the deeper waters of the open Atlantic Ocean. Amongst Adam's diving and boating credentials, are his certifications as a TDI, PADI and MSDT instructor as well as having a U.S. Coast Guard captain's license. Further, Adam is the secretary of the Long Island Divers Association (LIDA) and president of *Wrecksploration Divers*.

Adam has pursued many personal interests in diving as a sport but has attempted to expand his interests over the years. He has pursued interests in reefing projects as well as exploring the many shipwrecks in the waters off Long Island. His interest in wreck diving led him to establish *Wrecksploration Divers*, an organization dedicated to finding and positively identifying wrecks (if possible), uncovering their history and making those wrecks accessible to the Long Island dive community. Adam explained that local diving has much to offer including a fascinating marine environment, historical importance, hunting, photographic and video recording opportunities, artifact collecting and fun for both divers and their families.

Diving is accessible by both beach entry and by boat according to Adam. Long Island's many beaches provide divers easy access to points of interest at all times of the day and year as well as harboring a diverse array of marine life. Family members who do not dive can share in such outings thereby increasing the pleasure of shore diving! Some well-known dive locations accessible from shore are Secret Beach and Ponquoque Bridge, located on Long Island's north and south shores, respectively. Secret Beach was opened by the town of Greenport as a gesture of gratitude toward local divers who had assisted in conducting mooring surveys. LIDA was instrumental in keeping this site open to divers.

Ponquoque Bridge, although deteriorating, was declared a marine park and offers divers a great opportunity to experience a dive in an area teeming with marine life. It is best accessible 20 to 30 minutes before high slack tide. Adam suggests swimming along the rocks, moving eastward and then moving south and ultimately back to shore. Such a plan will aid divers in combating difficult currents. Another beach site mentioned by Adam is the Bayville Barge and Submarine located on Long Island's north shore. Underwater research diver Adam Groman located five to six submarines in this area. These submarines were sold as scrap metal to serve as breakwaters. Today, many lobsters can be found in the area. Afterwards, divers can enjoy the restaurant located at the site.

Adam furthered his presentation by concentrating on wrecks that are easily accessible to divers. Long Island has over a 300-year maritime history. Because many wrecks are offshore, a boat is generally required to reach many wrecks. Wrecks can be in water shallow as 15 feet but much deeper depths are common. Marine life is typically greater in terms of number and with respect to size. Visibility tends to be better at these sites as well. Opportunities for collecting artifacts abound which add to the excitement of diving such wrecks and exploring their interesting histories each of which is unique.

Adam highlighted several wrecks in his talk. The *Iberia* sank on November 10, 1888 in 60 feet of water after it collided with another ship, the *Umbria* off Jones Inlet. The wreck is over 200 feet long and has large boilers, which are easily recognizable. Other features that are easily identified are the *Iberia's* mast, engine, propeller and a large chain located near the bow. It can easily be navigated especially heading from the bow (which is slightly off the wreck) toward the stern. Remains of her cargo of crates of golden dates from the Arnold and Cheney Company can be found in addition to deck prisms and bottles.

Another wreck that Adam highlighted was the *Lizzie D*, an old rum runner from the 1920's during America's prohibition era. She sank in a storm on October 19, 1922 of Jones Inlet and lies in about 80 feet of water. The boiler can be seen as well as towing cleats and an exposed hull. Artifacts to be found include whisky and rum bottles some of which still have the original corks.

Adam explained that in addition to accessibility to dive sites and the allure of obtaining artifacts and studying the history of wrecks, many divers also are interested in observing and hunting marine life. Marine life that can be found, particularly for hunting, includes lobsters, scallops, mussels, blackfish, sea bass, fluke, flounder and bluefish.

Promoting LIDA was a large component of Adam's presentation particularly because of its dedication to the Long Island dive community. LIDA has served Long Island divers for over 25 years and is staffed by volunteers. It promotes local diving and preserves the rights of divers and the sites that divers frequent. LIDA works with dive shops, clubs, boats and captains to further the efforts of Long Island's divers. Monthly meetings are held and will now be held at SUNY Farmingdale instead of Blue Point. LIDA also sponsors a seminar series (the next of which will be held on May 7<sup>th</sup> at Nassau Community Medical Center's Amphitheatre at 8PM) as well as holding the LIDA Aquawoman Dive and the Annual LIDA film festival<sup>1</sup>, sponsoring a booth at Beneath the Sea and distributing a monthly newsletter entitled the LIDA Log.

LIDA's 2008 initiatives include an industry invitational meeting, a new members meeting location, a media relations committee, enhancements in communication, a new and improved website, an events calendar and a dive site information update. LIDA will also sponsor dives, community events, photo contests, elect dive club delegation, institute a

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<sup>1</sup> The 2008 LIDA film festival is tentatively scheduled to be held at Hofstra University NOT at the Cradle of Aviation Museum.

mentor program and hold an annual divers award meeting. Membership to LIDA is \$25. Divers can contribute by volunteering their time, writing for the newsletter and staffing and joining committees. Monthly meetings are open to all, even non-members!

Information on Wrecksploration was also a major topic that Adam addressed. Wrecksploration works with captains to positively identify and research wrecks to build libraries and resources that will aid in the location and identification of wrecks. Findings regarding those wrecks and their history are documented and made available to those who are interested. Wrecksploration accomplishes its mission by holding seminars, chartering dives, holding reconnaissance boat trips and by holding seminars and monthly meetings. Membership dues are \$10 for Associate members and \$20 for divers. A free newsletter and e-mail subscription is available. For more information, visit [www.wrecksploration.com](http://www.wrecksploration.com).

Martha closed the meeting by requesting that Adam do a encore presentation for those who missed this spectacular meeting to which he accepted.

**Our next meeting will be held on May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at 8PM at the Nassau University Medical Center Amphitheatre to attend LIDA's seminar on Long Island marine life.**

**Membership dues are due at our June meeting the cost of which is \$25 for individuals and \$35 for families.** We will also discuss the club's Two Year Anniversary Party, which may be held at the International Buffet. We would like to congratulate Zohra Asrar in accepting the position as LIND's Advertising Director.

*For questions, comments or corrections, please contact Demetrius "Dimi" Lutz at [paleolutz@worldnet.att.net](mailto:paleolutz@worldnet.att.net) or by calling (917) 392-8333.*

### **Long Island Network Divers Meeting Notes from March 5, 2008**

Club President Bruce Fink began our dive meeting with a brief introduction of guest speaker Mark Snyder. Mark specializes in building underwater image libraries of marine life for live-aboard dive boats in Indonesia.

Mark began his presentation by showing us numerous and impressive images of the gorgeous marine life found in the Maldives. The boat for which Mark was shooting his subjects was *The Mantheri*, which is a live-aboard based out of the Maldives. In addition to showing us the images, Mark explained that the Maldives harbors the largest number of fish species in any one area as well as having the most protected sites in the world with respect to bioconservation. Many of Mark's images can be found on the websites:

**[www.marksnyder.com](http://www.marksnyder.com) and [www.starknakedfish.com](http://www.starknakedfish.com)**

During his slideshow, Mark provided tips on taking and editing images using Photoshop, software designed for editing photographic images (there is no longer the need for lengthy film processing!) For those interested in underwater photography, Mark offers

classes. These classes consist of two eight-hour sessions and cost \$500 per person. With respect to equipment, Mark suggests starting with a relatively inexpensive camera such as the A710IS by Canon, the cost of which is approximately \$250 to \$400. An underwater housing for this camera costs about \$250. With experience, a diver may upgrade to a more sophisticated camera many of which are produced by Olympus. A good example is the Semi-Pro SLR, which costs roughly \$1000. Such cameras can have their flashes turned off allowing the photographer to focus on the subject and not on the flash! It should be noted that along with the type of camera, other factors, such as plankton, sunlight, depth and visibility, affect image quality. Strobe lights can also be added to the sides of cameras via adjustable arms, which allow the photographer to manipulate the angle at which light strikes the subject thereby producing variations in image color.

Mark ended his presentation with a brief question and answer session, after which the meeting was adjourned.

*For any comments and corrections regarding this summary, please feel free to contact Dimi Lutz at the following e-mail address: [paleolutz@worldnet.att.net](mailto:paleolutz@worldnet.att.net) or at (917) 392-8333.*

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

**Paul Mila** contributed this month's photo, titled *Don't Try This At Home!* Paul was diving in (where else?) Cozumel.



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

**I was diving with my favorite instructor, Alison, (A.K.A. Terry Hunter for you *Dangerous Waters* and *Whales' Angels* fans) of *ScubaWithAlison*. We were diving French Reef when Alison headed straight for a tiny cave, where she knew her favorite green Moray hangs out.**

**Sure enough he/she was there, calm as could be. Alison started stroking his/her back. The moray sure loved the mini-massage.**

**Photo was taken using my new SeaLife DC600 camera (this camera is available at Scuba Network), with wide-angle lens and the new SeaLife digital strobe.**

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

**No submission this month. Club members: *Please contribute!***  
**We're always looking for interesting stories and feature articles.**

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### **IV. GETAWAYS**

#### **Scuba Network Adventures**

#### ***Next trips: 2008- 2009***

FLORIDA – MAY.30-JUN.02 \$499.00 – Boynton Beach Florida  
COZUMEL – MAY 04 – MAY 09, \$649.00  
GRAND CAYMAN - JUNE 21-24 \$679.00  
BERMUDA - OCT. 17-24 \$TBA  
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](http://WWW.SCUBALONGISLAND.COM)**  
**Or [WWW.SCUBANETWORK.COM](http://WWW.SCUBANETWORK.COM)**

**Call 516-997-4864 or email [scubaclass@aol.com](mailto: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  
May 23-24-25

Weeknight classes: \$169; 6PM TO 10PM.

**Nitrox Course: May 10<sup>h</sup> 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 9 AM 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: MAY 06 AT 7:30 PM  
Price \$29.50 plus books.***

***RESCUE COURSE MAY 04 AT 9 AM \$29.50 PLUS BOOKS AND DIVES.***

***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: MAY 14, \$149.00***

***Two classes, one pool session. Pool for Dry suit Jul 26-Thursday.***

**Scuba Network Continuing Education**

***Call (516) 997-4864 to register for classes***

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## SPECIAL EVENTS

**NEXT DIVE CLUB MEETING MAY 07 WEDNESDAY 7:30PM  
AT NASSAU UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL  
CALL FOR DETAILS**

### *Scuba Network Featured Specials For Dive Club Members*

**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 at 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](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, May 7th, 7:30pm.**

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