



“DIVE LOG”

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITED DIVERS
OF CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS

October 2011

Volume X Issue 10

Page 1

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

2011 Banquet

Page 1

Club History

Page 2-5

Where have you been

Page 6

Calendar & Events

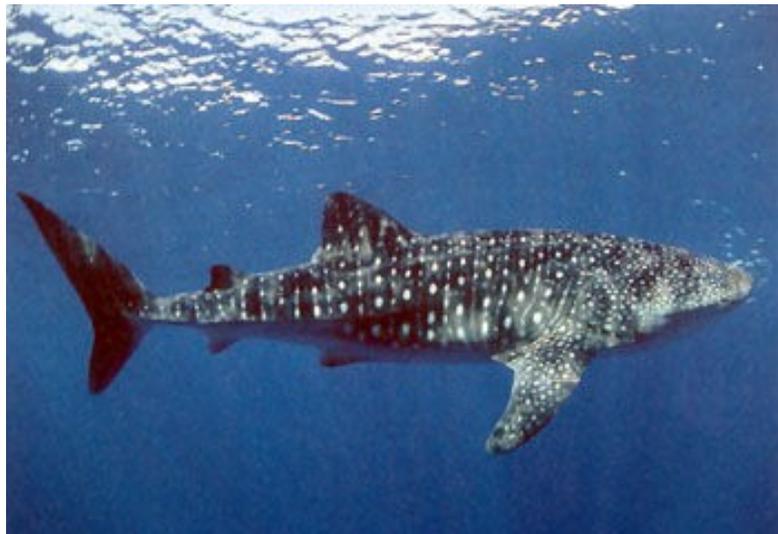
Page 7

UDCM Message

Page 8

UDCM Club Banquet October 20th

Our annual banquet will be held on Thursday October 20, 2011 at the **Bull Run in Shirley** beginning at 6:00 PM. Tickets are free for members and \$5 per person for guests. Cash bar, members buy their own meals. Jonathan Bird will once again be our featured speaker. Jonathan will be presenting “The Whale Sharks of Holbox”. We will have a UDCM 10th anniversary cake for desert. Don't miss this!



The Whale Sharks of Holbox

Many people do not realize that the world's greatest place to interact with whale sharks is right near Cancun. You don't need to go all the way to the Galapagos to swim with the world's largest fish. Jonathan will take the audience on a virtual trip to Holbox, Mexico, the sleepy little fishing island that has been revitalized by a gentle polka-dotted shark.

“Meet Our Guest Speaker”

Jonathan Bird is a professional Emmy Award -winning underwater cinematographer with experience in all aspects of underwater wildlife cinematography and still photography. He has shot and produced films for television which have aired all over the world. A frequent contributor to several diving magazines, and author of several books, Jonathan is widely published on marine life subjects and a member of the Wyland Ocean Artists Society. As president of the non-profit environmental organization Oceanic Research Group, Inc., he produces educational films



about marine life for use in schools and libraries, as well as satellite learning. He is a former professor in the broadcasting department at New England Institute of Art and Communications, in Boston, Massachusetts.

A Brief History of the United Divers of Central Massachusetts 2001-2011

by Mark Bowers

This year marks the tenth anniversary of the reinstated United Divers of Central Massachusetts. Mark Bowers has prepared overview of our Clubs history in this article.

United Divers of Central Massachusetts was founded by former members of the Fitchburg Skin Divers club in 1983. The founding members of United Divers were Paul Mathieu, Phil St. Jean, Cliff Allen, Scott Ewen, Ron Galipeault and Ted Osgood. It was the intent of the founding members of “United Divers of Central Massachusetts” that the “Club” and its members promote the

sport of scuba diving in a positive way. Over the years the dive club has been more commonly referred to as “United Divers” and even more simply “the Club”. It was the founding member’s intention that the “Club” be committed to educate the membership through the use of guest speakers, dive instructors, and club members.

It was also the intent of the founding members that the club be a place for divers of all levels. Diving with experienced divers is a great way for a new or less experienced diver to “learn the ropes” without going through the frustration of learning the hard way. After 13 years of activity in 1996 the club disbanded. After a period of almost 5 years Ron Galipeault, one of the original-founding members, re-organized the club and the first meeting of the rejuvenated club was held on May 17, 2001. The board of the newly re-organized club was made up of the following members: Ron Galipeault, Roger Lusco, Emily Ellis and Greg Bennett. With the exception of a couple periods during the history of the club the Board of Directors has been comprised of 6 members. There were always the core positions: president, vice president, treasurer and secretary. The other 2 board positions were known simply as “Board Member”. I am not sure if these positions had defined responsibilities or merely acted as the board deemed necessary. It was not until 2005 that these 2 “Board Member” positions were given responsibilities. These positions became those of Activities Coordinator and Membership-Publicity Coordinator.

The club has had a newsletter of some sort since the beginning. In 2004 a contest was held to name the newsletter. The contest was

won by Donna Conlon with the name , the “Dive Log” as it remains to this day.

The club has had many events over the years. All of the people named below either were club members at the time or are currently club members. If I have left anyone or any activity out it was not deliberate. The following are a few of the events that stand out:

Scuba Chicks Day

Scuba Chicks Day, which was begun by Christine (Duval) Bowers was an idea that originally started out as “Ladies Night Out”. Sue Rexford started “Ladies Night Out” in 1985 and it ran for several years. Joyce Kersey designed a t-shirt for each year and Judy Brown printed them. The premise of this activity was to bring female members together for an evening dive. This was always a blast. There was always a get together afterwards at the marina where Sue and Dick Rexford had their boat. Sue’s original concept of a ladies only event was always infiltrated by the guys. Who would have thought?

So, Christine updated the idea by including the guys. In 2005 Christine decided to incorporate the guys into the event. The idea was for the guys to carry the gear, help the women into the water and while they were diving the guys would have lunch ready when they came out.

Trivia: Sue Rexford legally caught the giant lobster that is on display at the store the day of the first Ladies Night Out!

Lobster Fest

Michelle and Ken Mostello began what has become another annual event eagerly anticipated by members called, "Lobster Fest". Michelle and Ken were gracious enough to open their house in 2006 for a feast of lobster caught by members. What better way than to go lobstering, share the catch with friends, talk about diving all at a back yard cookout. In 2009 Michelle and Ken passed the torch and Rich Atkins was kind enough to host the event at his house since.

It was at Lobster Fest that one particular game first surfaced. Although the name commonly used is not the most politically correct, we all know it as "Horse Balls". This game has since shown up at more than one club event.

Banquet

The club always had some form of year end party. It was originally in the form of a Christmas party. With the rebirth of the club in 2001 the original Christmas party lost a bit of its previous fervor. With the holidays being so busy it soon became apparent to have

the "big party" earlier. This big party has become the "banquet". The club has been fortunate to have hosted some diving legends!

Our guest speakers have included: Mark Stanton from the locally produced television show "Divers Down" that aired on NESN for several years. John Chatterton, Richie Kohler and Gary Gentile have presented to the club. John, Richie and Gary all established their reputations with countless dives on the Andrea Doria. The club was most fortunate to have hosted a true legend, Stan Waterman. Stan was a pioneer in underwater photography and filming.

Dive-A-Month

There have been at least 2 incarnations of the Dive-A Month event. The original event was conceived by Bonnie Lusco shortly after she was certified. It was a simple concept, do a dive a month. Bonnie not only organized and conducted the first monthly dive she didn't miss a month for 24 months.

This activity was revived by Jeff Goodreau in 2005. Jeff carried out this activity for over 2 years.

If I have made any errors or omissions I apologize. I have been working on a history of the club and diving in our area. I ask each of you to please email me any historical, factual and/or anecdotal information you may have or be aware of related to either. I would

love to find some record or someone's recollection of the Board members for the years of 1993, 1994 and 1995. As I uncover more history and trivia about the club I will share my findings in the newsletter.

Wachusett Mtn Ski Passes

Interested in skiing this winter? Dave Lamkin has set up a Group for the Club for Seasonal Ski Passes at Wachusett Mountain.

“United Divers” is the Group and Dave Lamkin is the coordinator. You can read all about the passes and sign up on line at www.wachusset.com or pick up a pamphlet at Andy's that explains the different passes and rates.

Gold Passes are 539,

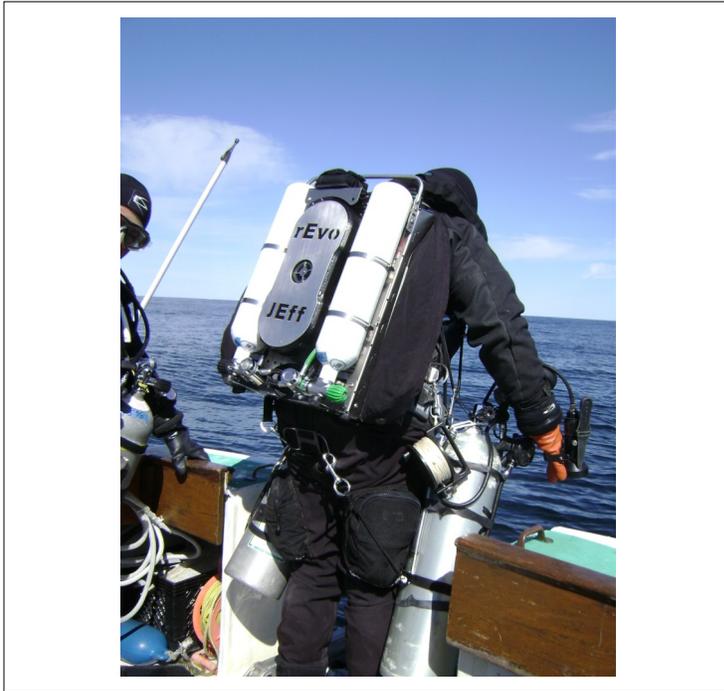
Silver Passes \$289

Bronze passes are \$239.

After November 16th the price goes up \$100 per pass.

See Dave for more information

Where Have You Been?



Jeff Goodreau about to splash on the Quoddy Bay with his trusty "rEva"



Derrick Smith about to gather something to eat!

October/November 2011

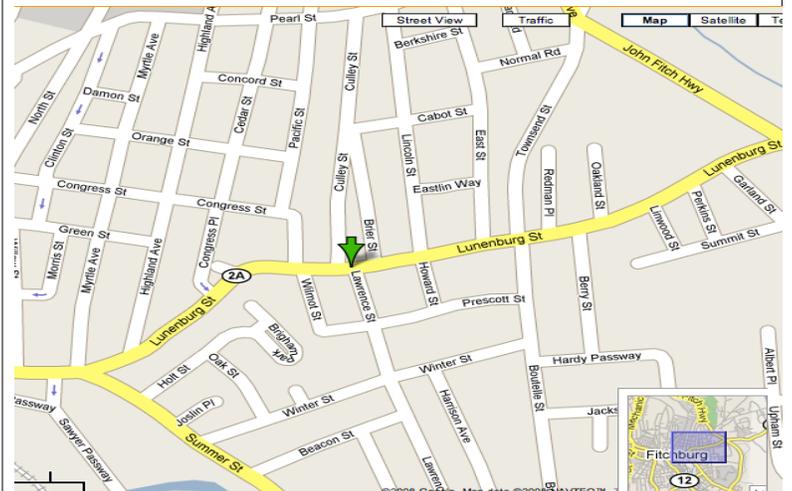
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
16	17	18	19	20 Club Banquet Bull Run in Shirley	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3 6:30 BoD mtg	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 7 PM Last Club Meeting in 2011.	18	19

2011 Event Planner

- Elections of 2012 Board October Meeting
- Club Banquet October 20th at the Bull Run in Shirley MA hors doeuvres 6pm meeting starts at 7PM
- November 17th Last Club Meeting of 2011

Meeting Time and Location

The United Divers meet once a month on the third Thursday of the month at Slattery's located at 106 Lunenburg Street, Fitchburg, MA. There is ample parking provided in the rear of the building. The meeting will be taking place in the event room near the back right of the restaurant. The meeting will begin at 7:00p.m. with a social hour beginning at 6:30p.m. If you should have any questions please feel free to contact any of the board members.




ANDRI'S
SPORT SHOP, INC.
 SKI & SCUBA SPECIALISTS
 216 Daniels Street,
 Fitchburg, MA 01420
 (978) 343-6330

Dive Log

United Divers of Central Massachusetts
P.O. Box 57
Fitchburg, Ma 01420
www.uniteddivers.org

Email: For newsletter correspondence
please contact Tom at:
troufos@student.fsc.edu



The Purpose of the United Divers of Central Massachusetts

The purpose of the United Divers of Central Massachusetts is to promote the sportsmanship and sport of SCUBA diving by stimulating our members to achieve the highest standards of safety and proficiency in SCUBA diving. To promote friendship and wholesome social activity among its membership. To promote educational programs that will provide fundamental knowledge supported by actual hands-on experience in a variety of areas including: safe diving practices, conservation of marine ecosystems, first aid and handling diving related emergencies, to organize group SCUBA diving trips, educational and social events that will allow our membership to accomplish all of the above.



United Divers of Central Massachusetts
P.O. Box 57
Fitchburg, Ma 01420