

We enjoy diving with you and appreciate your business. If you want to be taken off our email list there is a link at the bottom of the email, or you may reply with 'remove' in the subject line.

## Seattle Scuba Schools News - June/July 09

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Dear Divers,

Summer is officially here, and there has been lots of great diving going on. We had 50+ divers at our last club dive and BBQ. The viz was a little low that weekend - it has since improved to 40+ feet at Alki - but everyone still had a great time and a couple of divers even saw an octopus on their dive. The next day boat trip is July 11th, the next club dive and BBQ is July 12th, hope you all can make it.

Below you will find info on the upcoming trips, club activities, classes and gear specials we have going on. Also, we are expanding our facility and have some new instructors, all the information is below.

Also make sure you check out the Friday night boat trips, we just added some dates for those. Hope to dive with you soon!

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## Milestones

Some of our staff have achieved some milestones we would like to brag about. Divemasters Mark and Charlie recently completed the challenging Instructor Development Class and Instructor Exam to become real live Dive Instructors!! We remember when they were brand new Open Water divers trying to figure out the dive tables, buoyancy and everything else :-). Now they are all grown up... sniff, sniff.

We are very proud of them and delighted to have them teaching with us.



Newly minted Instructors Charlie and Mark with mother duckling Heidi.  
For those of you who are wondering, yes, Mark usually does seem taller :-).

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## Upcoming Expansion

Our Seattle facility space is growing! In the next couple of months we will be taking over the office directly next door to us, now Safe N Sound Swimming. We are really looking forwards to the bigger space that will let us have well, more space! In the plans are a better classroom area, an expanded photography center, more class/trip info..... and at some point, an air station!

Come by and see the new space as we move, but we apologize in advance for the ensuing mess that is going to accompany the move for a little while.

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## Photo Contest Info

Remember a couple of months back we announced a photo contest for later this year, with details to come? Well here are some of the details.

### Scuba Schools Digital Underwater Photography Contest

**Categories (4):** Pacific NW Macro, Pacific NW Wide Angle, Warm Water Macro & Warm Water Wide Angle

**Submission Deadline:** September 30, 2009.

**Submission Guidelines:** Must be submitted electronically (Email, thumb drive, cd....) **AND** as one 8 X 10 print.

**Photos per diver:** Each diver may submit up to 4 photos total to the contest, max of 2 for any single category.

**Entry Fee:** None!

**Voting for Pictures/Judging:** The winning pictures will be decided on by a component of popular vote and judging by a panel of experienced photographers. The panel will not know what diver took what picture to avoid any possible bias. Photos will be on display on the Seattle Scuba website and in the school in a photo album from October 1 to November 30. There will be a ballot box in the school for the popular votes. Make sure you stop by and vote! One vote in each category per person will be accepted.

**Photo Editing/Adjustment Rules:** Because this is a photography contest, not a photo editing contest, photos entered are to be without adjustment/editing/combining photos etc... except what would be possible with film photos and dark room: This means you may perform **ONLY** the following adjustments: Sharpening, Color Correction, Adjust Brightness, Adjust Contrast. Cropping is also OK. Any photos that appear to have any adjustment beyond these - as determined by the judging panel - will be disqualified.

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## Palau in 2010



If you are interested in the trip, please let us know so we can gauge how many folks might be going.

We are setting up a 7 day trip to Palau for May 2010, with a possible 5 day add on to Yap - the world's foremost destination for Manta Rays. Palau is the westernmost island chain in Micronesia and is known as one of the 'underwater wonders of the world'. It has amazing species diversity, with over 700 species of corals and anemones, and 1500+ species of fish. These are alongside larger pelagic dwellers such as dolphins, turtles, sharks.....

We will get more info up on the website soon, but here is the basic info.

Dates: Palau trip, May 8 - 16, 2010 Palau with Yap add on trip, May 8 - 20, 2010  
Palau: 7 nights, 5 days of diving Yap: 5 nights, 3 days of diving

The cost is not completely confirmed yet because we can't get 2010 contract dates confirmed until July, but here are the tentative numbers.

Palau trip: ~ \$3100 including roundtrip airfare from LA/Palau, all accommodations & diving  
Palau trip with Yap add on: \$4200 including roundtrip airfare from LA/Palau/Yap, all accommodations & diving.

\$500 deposit due at time of booking, balance due by Jan 8, 2010

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## Boat Fun Dives

### Weekend Day Trips

~~~~ Open to all divers with cold water experience ~~~~

July 11, July 25, August 9

Cost: \$95 for two dives and lunch - max of 6 divers + 2 staff.

Come out on the Aluminator for a great day on the boat and some fabulous diving. Go visit the seals at Orchard Rocks, the Rockfish at Boeing Creek Reef, the Wrecks at Shilshole Barges, the Octopus at West Seattle Reef..... Leaving out of Elliot Bay Marina by 9am, these are really fun trips that let you experience some of the sites in Puget Sound that are not accessible by shore.

### NEW Dates Added! Friday Evening Trips

~~~~ Open to all divers with night diving AND cold water experience ~~~~

July 17, September 11

Cost: \$95 for two dives and food - max of 6 divers + 2 staff.

Leaving out of Elliot Bay Marina 6:30pm. We go out for two dives, a dusk dive and a night dive, with Howie's great bread, soup etc... in between.

Minimum of 4 divers for these trips to go, max of 6 so sign up soon.

[More info](#)

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## Shore Fun Dives

Come on out to some of our local beach sites for some fun dives. Never been to one of our club dives before? Don't have a buddy? Not an issue.

There will be dive staff on the beach to help give you an overview of the dive site, and there will be other divers who need to find buddies, just like you! Remember, our shore fun dives are all FREE.

Drop by the school to pick up rental gear if you need it, then meet us at the beach.

"cold water experience" means Puget Sound or other area where you wore at least a 6mm wetsuit. There is more info about each of these dives on the website.

**Club Dive and BBQ - Harper's Ferry/Dock (Port Orchard) July 12th**

~~~~ Open to all divers with cold water experience ~~~~

There will be dive staff at the site from 12:30 to 4:00pm, the BBQ will be afterwards at one of our

divers' house, just up the road, ending ~ 6:30. Bring your gear and something to throw on the BBQ for afterwards. This is a nice shallow dive site, great for photography.

### **Club Dive - Cove 2, West Seattle - August 2nd**

~~~~ **Open to all divers with cold water experience** ~~~~

Meet at the school at 11, or at the site at noon. There will be dive staff on the beach from noon to 4pm. This site is one of the local favorites, it has lots to see at a whole range of depths, from beginner to advanced.

We often see GPO - Giant Pacific Octopus - at this site.

### **Club Dive and BBQ - Alki Junkpile - August 29th**

~~~~ **Open to all divers with cold water experience** ~~~~

Meet at the school at noon, or at the site at 1pm with your dive gear and something to throw on the BBQ. There will be dive staff on the beach from 1pm to 5pm. This site has a series of artificial reef structures and is somewhere we commonly see grunt sculpins.

[More info](#)

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## **Advanced Open Water Class**

**July 25 & 26, August 15 & 16, September 12 & 13**

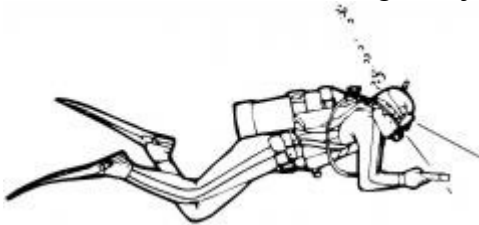
Open Water divers, you didn't learn everything in your beginner class, just like school doesn't end at kindergarden! The Advanced and Rescue are the other two core classes you absolutely should take to round out your dive skills. the Advanced class is 5 Dives, two days, lots of fun. Better your navigation, experience diving between 60' and 100', try boat diving, learn to identify some of the local creatures, work on your buoyancy, try a night dive..... This class, along with the Basic Scuba Rescue, is the follow up to the Open Water class and it introduces you to some of extra skills that are important for diving, and just some fun stuff that is good to know.

Day 1 is beach diving. Day 2 is boat diving.

Cost: \$385

Tuition: \$250 Textbook: \$40 Charter Fee: \$95

If you need any rental gear, it is available at half price for use during the class.



## **Special!: Drysuit Specialty and Advanced Class Combo**

**\$100 to add Drysuit Specialty to your Advanced class**

Book your AOW and Drysuit class together and get a \$50 tuition discount off of the tuition both classes, plus you get to do your entire AOW class in a Drysuit. Two days of shore diving, one day of boat diving, 7 dives total all in a warm drysuit. Drysuit class is typically scheduled a week or two before the Advanced, but you can pick any Drysuit Specialty date and any Advanced Class.

Cost: \$485 for both classes

If you need any rental gear, it is available at half price for use during the class.

**Drysuit Specialty Dates**

July 19, August 8th, August 30th

[More info](#)

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## Rescue Diver

The next step after Advanced  
August 1 & 2, November 21 & 22

Two 2 days of skill building, practical application, scenario practice and fun.

Learn to prevent and deal with all manner of dive emergencies.

The third of the core classes, it will make diving safer for you and everyone around you.

Prerequisite: **Advanced Certification and CPR/First Aid certification.**

CPR/First Aid class scheduled July 30th if you need it.

Tuition: \$250 Text: \$37

If you need any rental gear, it is available at half price for use during the class.



[More info](#)

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## UW Photography Specialty

July 18 & 19, August 22 & 23, September 12 & 13



Get ready for the photo contest and hone your underwater picture taking skills. Two days of diving and reviewing picture taking techniques. Taught by Divemaster Todd Husman, creator of the Sound Aquatic Underwater calendar. Day 1 is classroom practice of camera maintenance and care, along with basic shooting techniques for local area photography. Classroom time is followed by a dive where you will practice taking various types of pictures, then back to the classroom to review your pictures and comment on how to improve your pictures. Day 2 will involve some more advanced camera techniques, along with some

picture editing skills. This is a really great class to help you make the most of your underwater time with a camera.

Tuition: \$195 - Textbook: \$28 - Camera Rental Available

Prerequisite: **Open Water**

*Gear Special: If you choose to purchase a camera when you sign up for this class, or during the weekend, you would get 20% off of the price marked in store. That includes all of the Intova cameras, and the newly released and highly reviewed*

*Sealife DC800, as well as the Reefmaster Mini.*

[More info](#)

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## Drysuit Specialty

July 19, August 8, August 30

A one day class that can make a world of difference in your dive enjoyment. Some folks can dive around here year round in a wetsuit, but if you aren't one of them, come take the Drysuit class. 2 dives in one day. Just imagine walking down into the water and not feeling that cool water rush into your suit!



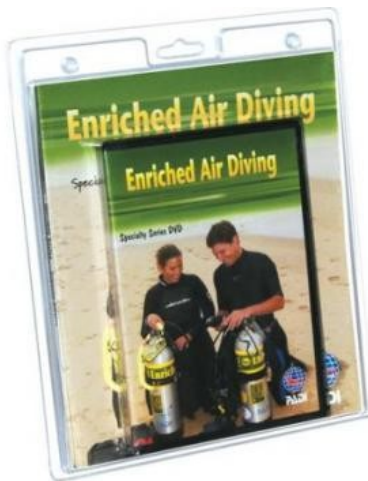
Tuition: \$150 - Study Materials: "Adventures in Diving Manual" \$40

Sign up for this and your Advanced class together and get a \$50 tuition discount.

Prerequisite: **Open Water**

[More info](#)

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## Enriched Air/Nitrox Specialty

July 20

Drastically extend your bottom time by reducing the Nitrogen in your breathing mix. Using standard air at 50ft your no decompression limit is 80 minutes, using 36% Oxygen instead your no decompression limit is 220 minutes! No complicated math required, but you do need to know that special procedures for using Nitrox. Home study plus an evening of academic review. No dives required.

Tuition: \$95 Textbook and Dive tables: \$70

Prerequisite: **Open Water**

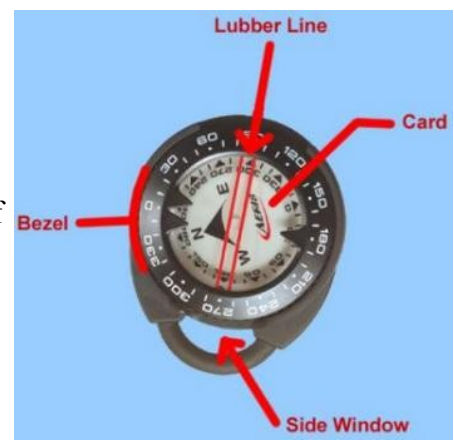
[More info](#)

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## Underwater Navigation Specialty

August 8 & 9

Know where you are. Always! Underwater navigation is, without a doubt, the most important, and often, the most overlooked aspect of diving. Remember your very first Open Water dive? You were



excited about your first diving experience and probably paid little attention to where you were going during the dive. You were perhaps astonished to surface and see that your instructor knew exactly where you were all the time. Navigation can be difficult but, with a little practice and experience, you too will soon be navigating like a pro. Three dives over two days practicing compass navigation, natural navigation, distance estimation etc.....

Tuition: \$195 Study Materials: "Adventures in Diving Manual": \$40

Prerequisite: **Open Water**

[More info](#)

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## **Gear Specials - Cameras and Dive Rite Wings**

Need a camera to get ready for the photo contest? All Sealife cameras are 15% off this month. Intova 5 & 6 megapixel cameras are 30% off this month, so come pick yourself up some new toys!

We also have Dive Rite wings that came in on closeout - these are 50% off for the ones we have in stock.

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## **Coming Next Month**

An update on the move, more info on the Palau trip....

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That is it for now, dive safe,

Craig & the rest of the Scuba Schools Staff

Craig Gillespie, Master Instructor

Seattle Scuba Schools

Ph: 206 284 2350

[www.seattlescuba.com](http://www.seattlescuba.com)

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