

# BLUE OCEAN DIVERS

## NEWSLETTER

<b>New Training Offerings</b> <i>Time to dust off your Save a Dive skills</i> <a href="#">Click here</a>	<b>Recent Certs</b> <i>See who is advancing their dive skills with addition training?</i> <a href="#">Click here</a>	<b>News from Tug</b> <i>Checkout the stories and tales from our very own "Unknown Diver"</i> <a href="#">Click here</a>	<b>Calendar</b> <i>Don't miss all the happening at Blue Ocean Divers</i> <a href="#">Click here</a>
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### Welcome to June

Happy dive season! What a spring! The weather has been warm, the sun has been out warming the water nicely. Dutch Springs is well on the way to warm summer water temperatures. What are you waiting for? Lets go diving! Our first Dutch Day is June 12<sup>th</sup>.

When you come in and say hi checkout the diver certification board. Here it is barely June and the number of new divers and divers advancing their skills is very impressive. Our last trip to Dutch Springs completed the certification process for 27 divers. Our calendar is full of opportunities for you to grow your diving experiences and have many fun weekends.

P.S. Did you know that if you are heading down to Dutch Springs for a day of diving you can sign your waivers and buy your pass on-line? This option will get you diving even faster! Did you know that Dutch Springs has season passes? Why not take advantage of the savings and commit to dive this summer.

Mach10 Mike

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### News from the Dive Center

#### New Store Hours

Due to changing customer patterns we are changing our store hours. Effective June 1<sup>st</sup> our new hours will be Monday - Friday noon until 7 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. and will remain closed on Sundays.

#### May Certifications

This month we were very busy with Open Water, Advanced Open Water and Rescue classes. Now we start it all over again with a Divemaster class starting June 6<sup>th</sup>. The following folks have earned certifications.

#### *PADI Open Water Diver*

Doug M., Carl S., Tim F., Jing W., Tom C., Kala H., Brandon S., Meagan G., Chris H., Jessica W., Jared G., Kara B., Cliff B., Matt D., Minchong H., Walter P., Emmanuel R., Gerald S., Mike J., Kelly J., Jaime W., Erica J., Nestor M., Marco R., Emily E., Aoife K. & Annette C.,

#### *PADI Advanced Open Water Diver*

Nicole A., Ben B., Jeremiah D., Jeffery E., Matt G., Ian M., Natalie M., Kyle O. & Dan W.

#### *PADI Rescue Diver*

Kathryn C., Dylen A., John W., Molly B. & Laszlo S.

Congratulations to one and all.

### It's Time to Go Diiiiiving!

Join us on June 12<sup>th</sup> at Dutch Springs for a fun day of diving. Blue Ocean Divers will have hot dogs and water and there will be staff to provide any assistance you need for a fun day. There is no charge for the snacks or the staff support. Come and sign up so we know how food we need to bring.

Do you need gear? Blue Ocean Divers will have a VERY special 1 day rental package for this Dutch outing. You provide your own mask, snorkel, boots and fins and rent a BCD, Wetsuit (including hood & gloves), Regulator, weights and a single tank all for \$25. Sign-up early to reserve your spot!

### The Unknown Diver

Hello Divers,

"It's time to go DIVING !!" Ever hear that before? It's kind of a Polarizing chant for the regulars at Blue Ocean Divers. Regardless, it is in fact time to dive in 2010. Our local waters are warming. There are twenty-seven new Open Water Divers to date and even a class of hardy souls that completed their Advanced Open Water certification in April. What a great start to what promises to be an exceptional dive season! There are community students currently enrolled in the Tuesday night sessions and the summer classes at the university are here as well. Lots of fine folks for all of us to dive with. I heard there is even an Instructor class in the offering. What could be better, new buddies, new instructors, how great is that?

Mike, Patti and their staff are organizing a "Dutch Day" for June 12<sup>th</sup> featuring a great deal on gear rental. It will provide a chance to blow bubbles, gain valuable experience for new divers, and fun for all. I can almost guarantee there will be staff available to serve as buddies, mentors, or offer continued education. Stop in the shop for details.

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I will be there for sure, offering free guided tours of the fire truck and a shore navigation exercise. Participants will become familiar with the closest route from a picnic table to the showers and restrooms. Space is unlimited so be sure to sign up ASAP. That's all for now. See you on the bottom.

Never Dive Over Your Head..  
"The Unknown Diver"

### Trivia Contest

Have you been checking out the Trivia questions on the website? I'm trying to make the questions more interesting and close to home. If you have been avoiding the trivia it's time to check it out. So all the answers for April are in the old dive hood and the name that popped out is Paul Garlitz. So Paul, stop on down to Blue Ocean Divers and pick up your bottle of mask defog.

How's your supply of mask defog? Go to our website and answer the 2 Trivia questions. Upon submittal you will be told if you found the correct answers to the questions. Your chances in the drawing will be based on the number of questions you answered correctly. If you answer both questions correctly you will have 2 chances in the drawing. If you answer only one correctly you will get one chance in the drawing. Good luck to one and all.



### Educational Opportunities

We have many opportunities for you to get a new buddy and advance your diving skills and knowledge.

Our next PADI Open Water course starting June 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. If the wait list grows we will start another class.

Divemaster class starts June 6<sup>th</sup>.

Wreck Diver Specialty June 17<sup>th</sup>

DAN DEMP June 19<sup>th</sup>

Check it all out on our [website](#).

### Planning for a Summer of Diving

#### *The wreck of the Islander (aka the Hospital Wreck) on the St. Lawrence River*

The Islander is one of the most popular shore dives in Alexandria Bay. Easy parking, access, entry and support make this a delightful introduction to diving in the 1000 Islands. Located just downstream behind the Hospital at Alexandria Bay, it's easy to find. You will also generally find other divers there, so you can nearly always find a dive buddy, if you didn't bring your own. It's a popular site for Open Water and other dive certification classes.

The dive site is sponsored by Delta Divers of Rome, NY. Delta Divers maintains an underwater navigation course and underwater dive platform at the site. Weekends during the summer months parking can be at a premium so get there early and have a full day of fun. Hunt's Dive Shop has air and nitrox right at the dive site to support multiple dives. Many people consider this DIVE CENTRAL for diving the Thousand Islands.

There are actually at least 4 distinct dives you can do from the Islander. There is the Islander itself, a drift dive from Casino Island to the Islander, a trip to "The Wall" and a tour under "The Only Floating Restaurant" in the Thousand Islands.

The Islander was a wooden side wheel steamer built in Rochester, NY in 1871. 125 feet long, displacing 118 tons owned by the Folger Lines. She was tied to the Cornwall Building Dock near the Thousand Island House in

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Alexandria Bay, when she caught fire just after midnight and burned to the waterline on September 16, 1909. It was feared that the Thousand Island House and the nearby Marsden House would catch fire as well. The guests were woken, but fortunately the buildings were spared. The Islander was valued at \$50,000 at the time of her demise.

She lies mostly intact in depths from 35 to 50 feet with a mild current. She lies parallel to shore with her bow pointed upriver. Be aware that the current at this site is usually reverse of the way you would expect it, due to the eddy created by Casino Island and the speed of the current in the main channel which lies beyond the green buoy.

With years of being one of the most popular dive sites, she still turns up an occasional bottle or piece of china. Some of it is planted there for your entertainment, so please leave it for others to enjoy as well.

Just downstream from the wreck there is an obstacle course and underwater dive platform set up for dive training. A nice opportunity to test your skills and polish up your communications and other techniques.

As you continue your tour down river you will pass the pilings holding up what's left of Captain Thomson's old hotel. Shortly thereafter you will find the Captain Thomson's Floating Restaurant overhead. On the southwest corner of the floating hotel, you will find a camera on a pole. Do a favor for the nice folks sitting up in the bar, clean the lens and then smile and show them your pearly whites.

Watch your depth and your air at all times and determine the best time to turn around and go back to the Islander for your 3 minute safety stop and/or deco if you've been down long enough to require one. If you follow the contour of the shore and stay at 15-20 feet for the return, you'll likely not need to stop when you get back to the collapsed pier and the Islander.

## Calendar

June 03	PADI Enriched Air Specialty Class
June 06 - August	PADI Divemaster Class Starts
June 12	Dutch Day - Fun Diving!!
June 17 - June 20	PADI Wreck Diver Specialty
June 19	DAN DEMP Course
June 26 - June 27	Dutch Springs Training Weekend
July 01 - July 04	PADI Advanced Open Water Diver Class
July 15 - July 18	PADI Deep Specialty Class

## Store Hours

Monday – Friday Noon until 7:00 p.m.  
Saturday 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday Closed