



Surface Interval

the Explorers Dive Club of NJ

Top 10 Reasons To Join Us on a Jersey Boat Dive

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Thanks to all our Jersey boat divers who have made it an awesome season! We're looking forward to a great dive on Sept. 26th!

10. You have the Garden State Parkway all to yourself at 5:45AM & get the chance to see an Atlantic Ocean sunrise.



5. On Monday when someone asks what you did for the weekend, you can casually say, I went diving 15 miles over shore to 100' and caught a lobster, what did you do?



4. The chance to bring home the freshest seafood dinner you will ever have.

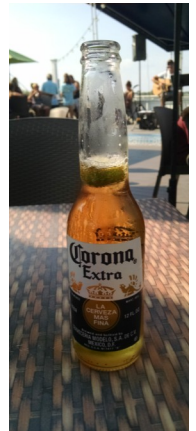


9. You look really impressive with all your redundant gear and safety equipment



8. If you are directionally challenged, you can just follow the lines (Carolina Line to the Anchor Line to your wreck reel) and never have to worry about taking a compass heading

3. You can use the savings from the group charter discount to buy a cold, adult beverage of your choice after diving, preferably at the Patio Bar.



2. The opportunity to dive with some bad, ass dive chicks



7. Because every wreck dive is a little different and although there may not be tropical colors, there is great diversity to the marine life



6. You can get your money's worth by bringing 2 sets of doubles and getting some incredible bottom times

And the #1 Reason to Join Us on a Dive...



President's Corner:

Many thanks to John Yavorsky for a great presentation on the club's Maldives trip. The combination of videos & photos made for an entertaining show.

Special thanks to Melissa Bellamy for hosting the annual rafting trip & to Tom Montrone for inviting us to his lake house for a cookout afterwards. A good time was had by all!

If you have ideas for dive trips, please do not hesitate to let me know.

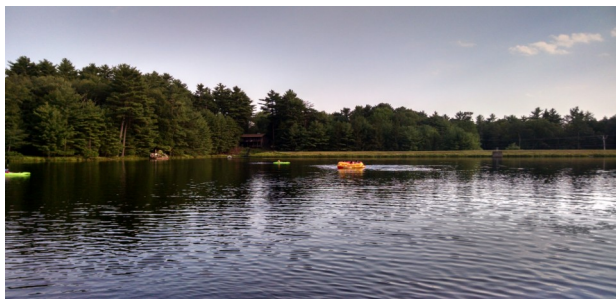
Karen Taylor
explorersdiveclub@gmail.com

Indonesia 2017

Interested in diving Indonesia? We're looking at Raja Ampat and Lembeh Strait which are reportedly the best dive locations in Indonesia. Raja Ampat (liveaboard diving) is located on the western part of Papua Island. Lembeh Strait (land-based muck diving) lies near Manado, Sulawesi. The date for this trip is not set yet, but best time to dive Indonesia is said to be May – September. No obligation at this time. This is just to see if there is any interest. Please contact Karen

at explorersdiveclub@gmail.com.

*Many thanks to
Tom & Gail
Montrone
for opening their
Beautiful Lake House
To the Club and hosting the
After Rafting Cookout!
A good time was had by all!*



Dues are Donations . . .

As a nonprofit group we rely completely on donations in the form of dues to cover our operating expenses.

The Explorers Dive Club would like to extend our sincerest gratitude for your donations over the years. Regardless of whether or not you are able to give financially at this time, we welcome you to join us for dinner, attend a meeting or an event any time you are available.

Dues are \$25 for individual and \$30 per family per year (July – June). Please see Lisa Vesuvio at a meeting or mail your check payable to "Explorers Dive Club" to:

Explorers Dive Club
c/o Lisa Vesuvio
477 Vicki Drive
Bridgewater, NJ 08807

**Get out your 2015 calendars,
date books, smart phones,
underwater slates etc.,**

September 8, 2015- Meeting 7:30 pm @ The Spain Inn

October 13, 2015 - Meeting 7:30 pm @ The Spain Inn

December 5, 2015– Holiday Dinner @The Spain Inn



973.949.4599

Gypsyblood Dive

A "Full-Service" Dive Charter Operation



2015 BOAT DIVE SCHEDULE

Saturday, September 26, 2015 - Maurice Tracey

Destinations Subject to Change Due To Conditions!

All are aboard the Gypsy Blood, now docked at Southside Marina,
311 Channel Drive, Point Pleasant, NJ

Board and loaded by 6:30AM for 7AM departure.

To reserve a spot, contact Keith Bellamy at
keithbellami@optonline.net



Socorro Trip

We're headed to Socorro January 15 - 23, 2016, the beginning of humpback whale season, on a 9-day Solmar V live aboard departing from Cabo San Lucas, Mexico. Socorro is the largest of four volcanic islands in the Pacific Ocean, the Revillagigedo Archipelago. Its abundant marine life attracts sharks and other pelagics. While Socorro is known for Giant Pacific mantas, we will be on the lookout for humpback whales, dolphins, whale sharks, Galapagos sharks, silky sharks, silvertips, and scalloped hammerhead sharks.

Live aboard cost with taxes: \$4059 per person for Standard cabin and \$4175 per person for Superior cabin. For 6 or more divers, the 10% group discount pricing would be: \$3653 per person for Standard cabin and \$3758 per person for Superior cabin. For 11 or more divers, there is a free spot discount that we will share.

Price includes double occupancy accommodations on live aboard, meals, snacks, beverages including soft drinks, beer and wine with dinner. Not Included: Airfare, airport transfers, hotel, gratuities, \$15 chamber fee, Nitrox.

Contact Karen Taylor at: explorersdiveclub@gmail.com for further information or visit – www.SolmarV.com

The Stolt—A Favorite for Many by Joanne Bulter

It's time for my annual newsletter article on a dive to the Stolt Dargali. The Stolt is perhaps my favorite wreck, and so I do try to get there at least once a season. Unfortunately, I wasn't able to join the club for that trip earlier in the season, so when I saw that the Gypsy Blood was heading out there one Sunday, John and I jumped on.

The Stolt was sliced in half by the Shalom in 1964, and 19 lost their lives. The bow was salvaged, and it's the stern we dive. The stern section sits on its starboard side at about 130 feet to the sand. However, it starts at about 60 feet giving the wreck a lot of relief and making it a dive for just about any experience level. In fact, on this trip, a group was taking a wreck diving class. When the sun hits the top of the wreck (which didn't happen Sunday), it's just beautiful. I generally like to start at the bottom, spend a little time in the sand and then work my way up. Even though it's fairly deep, you can get a good amount of bottom time. Boats generally tie in at the highest point, which makes the wreck easily navigable – for everyone but me. I still use a wreck reel.

After we tied in (which took a bit of time, while we were dressed in our

heavy underwear and airtight dry suits cursing the 90 degree day), and the John Jack tied into our line, the pool was opened. For at least the last few weeks, the top layer of water has been very milky, only to clear up after 35 or 40 feet. Sunday was much the same, although the very top layer, maybe 5 feet or so was clearer than it's been. But then we hit the muck



for the next 30 feet or so. And true to form, the visibility cleared way up after that. In fact, you could actually see the separation in the water. At the top of the wreck, we could also feel and see the thermocline. Apparently, the bottom temp was in the low 50s. I didn't catch. And while the visibility was pretty good, it was dark. No sun made it through to light up the top.

I've had some pretty spectacular dives on the Stolt. On a few dives, we've caught scallops. One year, there was a barracuda that camped out at the wreck for a few weeks. This trip had none of that. However, I did see something I never had be-

fore: the sand was a carpet of little skates. On the first dive, John and I headed down by the break. There were skates everywhere you looked. And with the visibility at about 30 feet on the bottom, that was a lot of stake. Really very cool. After a little bit of that, I headed back up and spent a good amount of time on the top, playing with the bergolls, which I love. These little fish are not at all timid, and will come right up to you, staring you down. During my last dive, someone was bit by a bergoll, but not this time. These guys got a free meal as I pulled debris of the wreck, loosening up whatever it is that bergolls eat.

For the second dive, we went down the other side, where the propeller is. This time, the skate were joined by flounder. I must have seen half a dozen or more flounder. They were relatively small, although John did come across a pretty big one (or so he said). We spent a little time among the skate, flounder, lobster and crabs at the bottom, before starting up. The Stolt is on its side, and has a lot of openings and passageways to explore as we ascended. After a little time hanging out on the deco line, we made our way back onto the boat, and headed in. Another great day out on the ocean.

Club Rafting Trip 2015

The club's longstanding rating trip was exhilarating as usual! About 35 members, friends and family braved the mighty Delaware once again. Although many of the "kids" that once waved the flag and pirated candy and beer were far too old for it to be considered cute anymore, it's always a fun day on the river... And a beautiful day it was. There was still plenty of water cannon activity and shenanigans. Six rafts carried us down

river under sunny skies. A small water snake joined us on our lunch break. And we stopped for some cliff diving as is the custom.

The paddling and sun do take their toll and we were feeling it by the end, at least I was.

The Montrones once again graciously opened their lake house in



nearby Dingman's Ferry for an après rafting cookout and some kayaking.

More members and friends joined us there, A good time was had by all!

Visit us on the Web!
www.explorersdiveclub.org



Like us on Facebook!
Explorers Dive Club NJ



Meet us on Meetup
www.meetup.com/ExplorersDiveClub

Next Club Meeting
Tuesday, September 8, 2015

September's Presentation

**Captains Steve & Maureen
Langevin of Dive Voyager
Expeditions will present :
"Diving Antarctica -
The Great Southland"**



The expedition begins when the ship departs from the southern most tip of Argentina, crossing the treacherous Drakes Passage along some of the same routes as famous early explorers. After more than a day at sea, they pass through the South Shetland Islands destined for the Northern shores of Antarctica. Experience for yourself the excitement of their journey, the spectacular landscapes both above and below the frigid waters as they dive at this remote place, all captured on video and incorporated into an entertaining story.