

UDNH IN THE NEWS!!



Channel 9's sports reporter interviews an injured Wayne Russell for Charlie Sherman's sports highlights show after a tough game of underwater hockey at the YMCA pool.

Presidents Corner

by Jean Stefanick

From The President,

Another year has swiftly passed, with many memorable events. I've been proud to have served as President of UDNH this past year and look forward to active involvement in the future. The successes of the activities of the past year speak for themselves - reflect on the list and it is even more impressive.

I would like to personally and publicly thank all of the other officers and key organizers of this past year's events for their unselfish sense of volunteerism. It has been a pleasure to work with people who do what they say they will do, and willingly follow through. Many events were wonderful, others were first time spectacular beginnings, and everyone associated with them look to the future with sincere suggestions for improving our club events. We've built some bridges and created some new traditions while honoring the old. Simply put, United Divers of New Hampshire is a small but close-knit group of divers who care... about diving, about the environment, and about each other. At this time of the year when we count our blessings, let us all look back on the year... and smile!

See you next year! Jean

UDNH Annual Banquet

On November 8 about 65 of us got together at the Yard Restaurant in Manchester for an evening of food, spirits, prizes, and an informative and sometimes irreverent presentation by Jonathan Bird covering his exploits filming everything from nudibranchs to closeups of mating Right Whales in the Bay of Fundy. Special thanks to Tom Tremblay for handling most of the arrangements. Also, congratulations to Marilyn Shaw for winning the 20# of Live 'N Kicking Lobsters, and all the other prize winners.

PARTY!

Jake & Linda Richter (and the wee ones) will be back from Bonaire for the holidays. (Isn't that where most of us want to GO for the holidays?) Gary & Sue Thuillier are hosting a pot luck get-together on Saturday, Dec. 27 @7pm. Come say Hi! 603-487-3001 for details & directions.



The Newsletter of the United Divers of New Hampshire

Editors: Lea Nichols
Gary Thuillier

Support: Don Eva

Submissions

Editorial contributions may be e-mailed to *COMPTUS@aol.com* or FAXed to 603-487-5513. Submissions can also be sent on paper or PC floppy to:

Lea Nichols
342 Lyndeboro Road
New Boston, NH 03070

Please include a brief byline and author contact information with your submission. Submission shall automatically constitute an expressed warranty by the contributor that the material is original and is in no way an infringement on the rights of others. While no compensation is paid for published submissions, a byline indicating the source of an article will always be provided. Authors grant *Dive Log* and United Divers of New Hampshire first print rights to the submission. *Dive Log* and its editors reserve the right to edit all materials as needed. The opinions stated in the articles in *Dive Log* are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the United Divers of New Hampshire or the editors of the *Dive Log*. For further information, please contact Lea Nichols at (603) 487-2726.

Subscriptions

Subscriptions to *Dive Log* are included in the UDNH membership fees. Non-members may subscribe to the newsletter for \$15/year. Subscription inquiries should be addressed to Lea Nichols as well.

Advertising

Rates for a full year placement (6 bimonthly issues) range from \$75 to \$360, depending on placement size and location. For detailed information on advertising in *Dive Log*, contact Don Eva at (603) 672-5608 or *dpeva@aol.com*

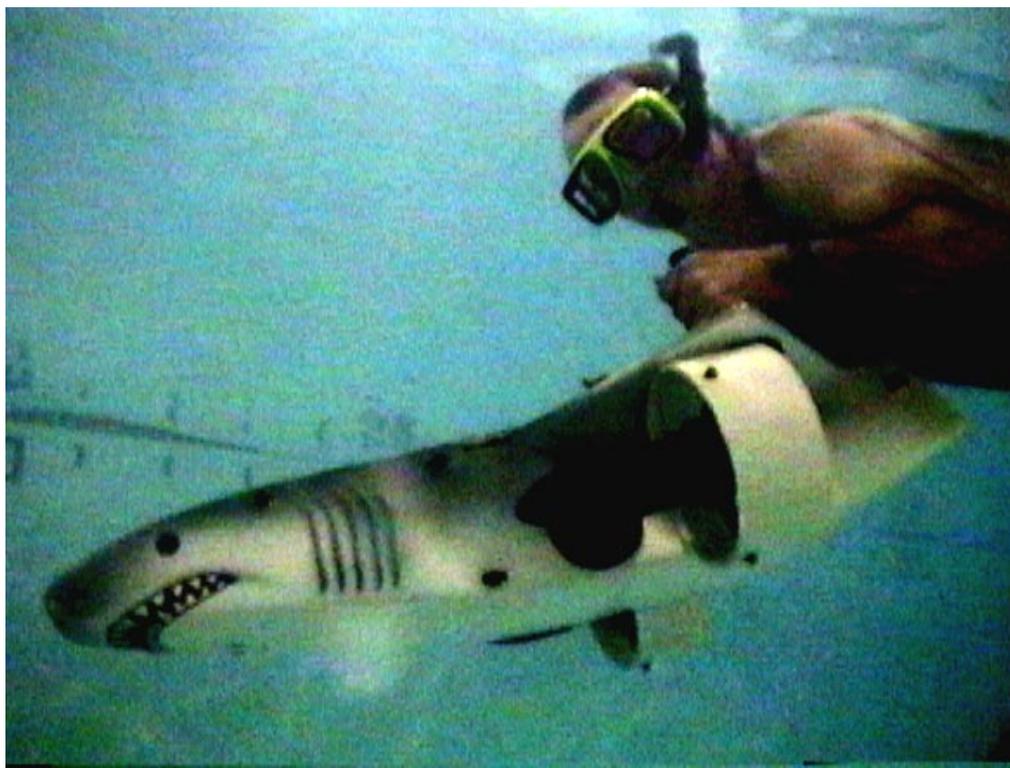
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Website:

Newsletters and other current info are available at our website: <http://www.strokeofcolor.com/udnh>, graciously hosted by Jake & Linda Richter.

Happy 60th Birthday, Ron Mann



Still Swimming with the Sharks

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- Alice Mann@ UDNH banquet

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Walk on Dates for 1997

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INSTRUCTIONS

RENTALS

M/V Mount Washington

by Gary Thuillier

Dec.13, Mike Griffin , Dave Denoncourt and myself decide to sneek in one more dive in fresh water before the need for chainsaws and ice gear becomes evident. The site, Center Harbor at Lake Winnepesaukee, winter home to the Mount and her smaller mailboat sisters.

On this day we hoped to see a harbor free of ice as the temps weren't really all that cold, but to our surprise there was a thin coating covering all we could see, with the exception of the docks area which are equipped with water circulators. This was a blessing , one that I had counted on. I've been going there several years now and it's always an easy entry unless a heavy snowfall blocks the ramp. Two years back , the snowplows pushed up a wall six feet high so its always wise to get some info before heading all the way up there.

We entered the water -- me with a camera and Mike a metal detector -- hoping to discover vast riches under the Mount. Dave joined us later on in the dive. It's really weird seeing another diver while you're down in a spot like this, especially in December. Dave was late so we went in thinking he wasn't coming. Well , determined as he was, he found a way to zip his drysuit alone using a wire hook and a signpost.

Diving under a boat such as this is pretty interesting. It's really BIG. The lake bottom is littered with years of repair debris and some new items they were sorry to drop. One was a new fiberglass stepladder (we leaned it against the dock so someone will be surprised) another item , a nice hardhat (should make a good covers helmet). A couple of old bottles rounded out the dive as well. There was a pile of old ceramic odds and ends back when we first started diving here but over the years it has dwindled to a scattered mess lying on the

white clay bottom. This in itself was kind of strange looking due to the prop wash from the Mount Washington's two huge screws.

On a second dive, Mike and Dave went in and headed out to the ice shelf being sure to take an accurate compass heading home. Once underneath Dave punched his hand up through and waved. Naturally I was out of film for that one (a really bizarre site indeed). The dive is a shallow one, 22 ft. just beyond the stern of the boat, but given the water temperature it was deep enough. I didn't have a thermometer but my guess would be somewhere in the upper 30's. By the time the guys got out of the water it had turned into a night dive. Funny how fast things freeze up after the sun goes down and lucky for us the girl at the convenience store was nice enough to brew up a fresh pot of coffee.

There is still plenty of time to get in the water at Center Harbor , after all it's only December. The place is real easy to find, just follow the lake North till you see a big white boat at the dock. Happy Holidays and good diving.

UDNH Shirts for Sale

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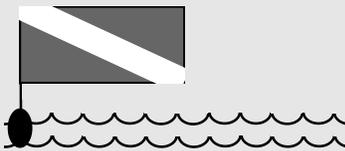
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Sweat Shirts with embroidered logo \$22

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Aqua Ventures Dive Center

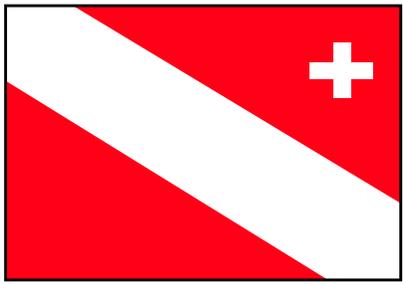
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UDNH is a DAN sponsor. We encourage all divers to support Dan's efforts to promote safe diving.

When starting or renewing your membership, clearly indicate our UDNH sponsor # 31043. UDNH accumulates points towards safety equipment, etc. based on the number of club members who join DAN.



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TECH TIPS



Who needs weights?

Tech Tips is a new column for members to share their knowledge, ideas and/or inventions. All submissions welcome.

High Pressure Hoses: If you look closely at the rubber you'll notice tiny perforations running its entire length. This is an outer shell designed to give you somewhat of a warning that a leak is present. If you notice a coating of fine bubbles when the hose is submerged, this is an indicator that the inner lining has developed a breach giving you ample time to turn off the air supply before it bursts. **SOMETHING TO KEEP AN EYE ON !!!** -

Mike Griffin

Equipment Mart:

Members looking to buy, sell, or trade equipment may advertise here for free. Send submissions to Lea Nichols, 342 Lyndeboro Road, New Boston, NH 03070 or COMPTUS@aol.com.

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MAKING NITROX

The gas of the 90's, where does it come from?

by Jim Godfroy

Nitrox has become readily available all over the world from the Caribbean to Live Aboards to Europe and beyond. Every major magazine has, at one time, published an article on the pros and cons as well as what is it. But not many on where does it come from or how it is made.

Once a Nitrox class has been completed you can go to a Nitrox fill station and say "fill it up with the good stuff," as you tell a Blend Tech the O2 percent you want. And a diving we will go. But have you ever wondered how Nitrox is made?

Each month there seems to be different ways to obtain Nitrox. From the common to rare, from cheap to expensive, from large volume to small. The most common way, which we will discuss, is Partial Pressure filling. Partial Pressure filling is a simple process, we only need to know a few things:

1. That you are certified to use the mix requested.
2. That your tank is Oxygen clean, and dedicated to Nitrox only. This also includes a current Hydro VIP.
3. What your fill pressure is, and the mix % you want. Based on this information a Certified Blend Tech can whip you up a batch of custom EANX.

First the tech hooks an empty scuba cylinder up to an Oxygen bank and *very slowly* adds Oxygen to the desired fill pressure, usually a few hundred PSI, via a digital pressure gauge for accuracy. Next, the gauge is connected to a filter system and topped off to the desired PSI of air, then analyzed.

Did you say Filter System? Yes, this Filter System,

usually has 2 canisters, takes clean, dry scuba air and filters out all hydrocarbons and nearly all impurities and you get Ultra Purified Air. This is used to top off to get your ending desired PSI.

Partial Pressure filling is one of the most affordable systems to make Nitrox, and higher percentages of Nitrox can be made as well as a specific mix. However, if a dive is planned and you do not want to dive Nitrox for any reason we can fill your tank with Nitrox 21 or Ultra Purified Air to prevent another cleaning of your cylinder.

Aqua Ventures Dive Center in Hudson, NH has recently upgraded our air fill station to include Partial Pressure fills as well as the capability to Oxygen clean regulators and tanks. The Aqua Ventures staff has also been trained and certified through TDI and has available 3 Gas Blender Techs and 2 Nitrox Service Techs. We also offer Basic Nitrox Instruction thru TDI. If you'd like to learn more about Nitrox or our new fill system stop by or call Aqua Ventures at (603) 598-5100.



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Saturday 7 AM to 7 PM Closed Wednesday and Sunday.



Club Meetings

Meetings are held the first and third Mondays of each month, January through November. We encourage potential members to attend a meeting or two to experience our club before joining. The meetings are held at the YMCA on 30 Mechanic St. (off of Elm Street) in Manchester. The meetings start at 7:00 PM. Each meeting consists of a short business portion followed by a variety of presentations and discussions. Immediately following the club has an hour of pool time for swimming, trying out gear, and the occasional game of underwater hockey. Members and guests often meet afterwards at a local restaurant for food and drink.

Extreme Weather

Meetings will be held if the YMCA is open. You can call them at 603-623-3558. Check close to the meeting time as the front desk often has no advance warning of early closures.

Membership

Annual dues for membership for 1998 in the United Divers of New Hampshire are \$25/individual or \$40/family. Dues are not prorated for members who join later in the year. To join, please contact Don Eva at 603-672-5608

Get in the Swim

After every meeting, the YMCA pool is open to our dive club for an hour of fun and fitness.

Don't wait for the ice to thaw before trying out that new equipment, the pool is the perfect place. Check out the club calendar for special presentations in the pool like dive knife use or trying out a dry suit. So bring a suit and a towel to every meeting and get into the swim.

United Divers of New Hampshire Contact Information - 199

President	Mike Griffin	603-598-0151
Vice President	Tom Tremblay	603-625-8459
Treasurer	Gary Thuillier	603-487-3001
Secretary	Don Eva	603-672-5608
Dive Coordinator	Ken Anderson	603-594-9776
Ass't Dive Coord.	Ron Mann	603-883-9015

Meetings and Events

December 27 Party for Jake & Linda Richter
@ Gary & Sue Thuillier's. 7:00, Pot Luck call Gary or Sue @ 603-487-3001 for details.

January 5 Meeting. Lea Nichols will present video from either the UDNH Smuttynose Island weekend, or his recent trip to Micronesia, depending on how well his editing system behaves.

New meeting schedule: 7-8:15pm - meeting & presentation, 8:30-9:20- pool time, 9:20-9:30 - Hot Tub!
Fin Challenge- bring your fins to compare with others'.

January 19 Meeting. Topic TBD.

January 31 New England Aquarium Dive Club Banquet. All invited.

February 2 Meeting. Ice Diving presentation & Training.

February 15 Annual Ice Dive - Lady of the Lake @ Lake Winnepesaukee.

February 16 Meeting. Paul Young and Charlotte Richardson will give us a Multi-image presentation from the Arabian Gulf.

February 21 Glen Ellis Falls dive

March 2 Meeting

March 7&8 Boston Sea Rovers 44th Annual Underwater Clinic & Film Festival.

March 14 2nd Annual New England Scuba Clubs Dive Wave. Multi-club party. Don't miss - last year was a blast! Contact Al & Wendy Bozza @508-384-1377.

March 16 Meeting.

April 6 Meeting.

April 20 Meeting. Underwater Olympics.

June 6&7 Smuttynose Island trip.

August 15 Annual Jay Lewis Picnic. Lobster Raffle

September 27 National Coastal Cleanup



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Forward and Address Correction Requested



Dive Log is the monthly newsletter of the United Divers of New Hampshire, an organization dedicated to educating divers and expanding the knowledge of diving in the State of New Hampshire and New England.

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