

Priceless

ScubaH2Omag.com

December 2016 • Issue 12



SCUBA & H2O

ADVENTURES



**TENNESSEE
MARKING
THE QUARRY**

**MAGNIFICENT
MARYLAND**

**BC'S AMAZING
SOUTHERN
GULF ISLANDS**

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SCUBA & H2O Adventure is published monthly by the Dive News Network Media Group at PO Box 1494, Oak Harbor, WA 98277. The Dive News Network Media Group reserves the right to refuse service to anyone it chooses. © 2015-2017 Dive News Network Media Group. All rights reserved.

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We encourage readers to participate in determining the content of this publication by giving us their opinions on the types of articles they would like to see. We invite letters to the editor, manuscripts and photographs related to diving or dive-related business. Send us your stories and photos!



ABOUT THE COVER:
Barb Roy captures the beauty beneath BC's amazing Southern Gulf Islands.

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Dive Locally & Often!



As our Southeast section we profile the great state of Tennessee. A state better known for its connection to country music and corn whiskey, scuba seems to play second fiddle but often steals the show – read our story about the incredible diving in the volunteer state, beginning on page 8.

Maryland, sitting on the edge of the Atlantic Ocean is known for its incredible sea food – especially the crab cakes and oysters. What is not so commonly known is that divers have incredible advantages over fisherman in catching their dinner. Read this article to find out how and when to go for these delectable dishes. Read this story on page 22.

There may have been a miracle on 34th st on TV, but this summer Loves Park, Illinois divers celebrated a miracle for one of their own. Told by doctors that he'd never walk again, local master scuba diver, Bill Brantley with the help of dive industry buddies took a dose of his own concoction to prove the doctors wrong. Read his incredible and inspiring story on page 28.

DNN Editor-at-Large Jennifer Idol, the first woman to dive all 50 states and author of An American Immersion, a book chronicling her many adventures, is no stranger diving in weird or unusual places. This month Idol shares her adventures in Missouri and shows that real beauty is found closer to home. Read her endearing story on page 32.

Located just north of Washington's San Juan Islands, British Columbia's Southern Gulf Islands are some of the most beautiful on the planet. Known for the remote – slow paced charm, these islands are just as beautiful below the water as they are above. Local diver and naturalist Andy Lamb is an expert in these waters offers advice on where to go and what to do that only the locals know. Read his story as he describes his home waters – begins on page 42

These days we hear about the cost of war and the human tragedies that often result but we forget about the personal left back home and the missing of important life events that happened while love one were serving Uncle Sam. Veteran Juan Gonzales missed most of his son's childhood while serving overseas and struggled to connect with him while also suffering from PTSD. Local good Samaritan, established a charity called WAVES, as a method to help Vets deal with their issues through scuba therapy. Read this beautiful and inspiring story on page 48.

Diving off the Oregon Coast is both physically and mentally challenging. The unpredictable sea can offer conditions from bathtub calm to death defying, changing quickly. Diving historian Tom Hemphill and dive instructor Floyd Holcomb have co-written a book that profiles the diving and diving history of the Beaver State and shows that in order to dive in Oregon you need to have you're a-game on. Read this profile on page 68.

Rick



Text and Photography by Michael Salvarezza and Christopher Weaver (Eco-Photo Explorers)

The Long Island Diver's Association annual Film Festival has become a tradition in the New York metropolitan area and this year will be no different. On Friday, January 27, 2017, the local dive community will once again gather on the campus of Hofstra University in Hempstead, New York, for an evening of underwater entertainment.

This year, a compelling slate of renowned speakers, photographers and filmmakers will be featured at the film festival.



Larry Cohen and Olga Torrey will be taking the audience to the emerging dive destination of CUBA in their presentation titled "Cuba: Back to the Future".

Michel Labrecque and Julie Ouimet will describe their ambitious expedition to Clipperton Island in "Clipperton, Cursed by Isolation."



Maureen and Steve Langevin will take the audience on a visit to a local shipwreck in "The USS Algot: The Demon Star"



Meanwhile Sally Wahrmann and Mary McAllister Davis will explore sunken shipwrecks off North Carolina in "WWII on America's Shore (N.C. Shipwrecks)".

The SEDNA expedition to the Arctic will be featured in Renata Rojas' presentation titled "SEDNA Epic Expedition".



Eco-Photo Explorers will take the audience to the Indian Ocean in "Shades of Blue: Diving the Central Atolls of the Maldives" and Paul Cater Deaton will feature some spectacular indo-pacific footage in his film "Bethlehem in the Bohol Sea".



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Film Festival

Attendees are also treated to a very popular after party immediately following the conclusion of the film festival. Here, in addition to food and refreshments, dozens of raffle prizes are distributed. These prizes range from equipment giveaways to all inclusive dive holidays in remote locations and on famous liveaboard dive vessels.

At the party, divers get the chance to meet the speakers, renew friendships, swap stories and begin planning the upcoming dive season.

There is no better way to shake the post-holiday winter blues than to attend the LIDA Film Festival and begin dreaming of your next dive adventure.

"The Long Island Divers Association's annual Film Festival is the perfect opportunity for all of the Long Island and New York City divers, dive stores, dive shops and dive

boat captains to come together at one location to enjoy the camaraderie within our great organization.," says Barry Lipsky, President of LIDA.

The Long Island Divers Association (LIDA), a 501(c)(3) non-profit regional organization dedicated to the promotion of local diving, the representation of divers interests throughout the diving and general community, and the protection of divers rights through outreach to local and regional government officials, uses the film festival as a key fund raiser for all of its ongoing efforts.

Attendees not only enjoy the remarkable presentations and entertaining after party, but they can be assured that their entrance fee goes towards the support of the LIDA organization.

Tickets are on sale for this event. To buy tickets, or to learn more about LIDA and the Film Festival, visit them online at www.lidaonline.com. 

Long Island Divers Association

LIDA is a not-for-profit regional organization dedicated to the promotion of local diving, the representation of divers interests throughout the community, and is staffed completely by volunteers.



Members can contribute to the mission through the following:

- Attendance at critical LIDA planning and strategy sessions
- Contribution to beach and ocean cleanups
- Participation in local dive events
- Attendance at the annual LIDA Film Festival

Find us online at:
lidaonline.com



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