

Scuba & H2O

YEARLY SUBSCRIPTION \$20

ADVENTURES MAGAZINE

22 CHARTING THE SOUTH FLORIDA WATERS

MEET BILL COLE FROM SEA EXPRIENCE

32 NIGHT OF THE MANDARINFISH

A COMMUNITY OF DIVERS

56 WHALE OF A TALE

HAUNTED ISLE ADVENTURES ON WRECKS OF NOVA SCOTIA

Contents

APRIL 2019

08 DR BAUER

RECEIVES ACCOLADES IN FLORIDA

10 SFO DIVE SHOW LAUNCHES

SANTA CLARA CONVENTION CENTER

14 DUTCH SPRINGS MID WINTER

INSTRUCTOR DAY!

18 HOWE SOUND'S SPONGE REEFS

CMEPS UPDATES

22 CHARTING SOUTH FLORIDA

SEA EXPERIENCE

26 CRYSTAL RIVER WATERSPORTS

GUARDIAN GUIDE DESIGNATION

28 DIVERS ALERT NETWORK

DIVING AT NIGHT

32 MANDARIN FISH

EXPLORE LEMBEH STRAIGHT

38 VINTAGE SCUBA

EARLY DIVE LIGHTS

44 BASIC SKILLS

MANAGING THE LOAD

46 DAN ANNOUNCEMENT

BTS ANNOUNCEMENT

48 ALEC TECH TIPS

PROPER WEIGHT BALANCE

51 WHAT IS IT?

CAN YOU IDENTIFY THIS GEAR?

52 CARBON FOOTPRINT

IS IT TOO LATE?

56 WHALE OF A TALE

HAUNTED ISLE ADVENTURES

64 COMMERCIAL DIVING ADVENTURES

THE PIT

70 SOLO AND PROJECT KOMODO

ANSWERING THE CALL

74 ENVIROGIRL ADVENTURES

HLA WATCHES!



SFO DIVE SHOW
LAUNCHES

10



MANDARIN FISH

32

From the Editor



The moment he was born a celestial light bled through the cloudy skies and swept over the farm. I heard a voice booming from the heavens when suddenly I was transformed; my muck covered clothing and boots now clean, elegant, and untouched. The barn slowly morphing into a celestial palace built from Thor's hammer as he swept over the land with grace. My golden hair tossed gently into the breeze, so lustrous even Samson would have cast aside Delilah. I had become a deity as I held the new born still covered by his mother's life force. In the distance the cows bellowed, their deep guttural calls now filing the air with a choir of a thousand virgin angels singing in harmony as they announced the arrival of the new life on the farm. I quivered at the site of this frail beast grasping for his first breaths. When I laid eyes upon him, I instantly saw into the eleven theorized dimensions of space and time. I saw the past, future, present, and everything in-between. All the mysteries of life and existence embodied within this soft beast as he rhythmically breathed the air from the heavens.

Suddenly the mythos of birth was torn from me like the flesh of a peeled orange revealing the raw tenderness inside as an ungodly sound emanated from tiny creature - he wanted his mother's teat. April had fooled us and our doe (female goat) gave birth to twins. Surprise!

Selene Muldowney
selene.dnn@gmail.com



About the Cover:

A pair of Banggai Cardinalfish (*Pterapogon kaudemi*) by Eco-Photo Explorers

FOR THE RECORD: CONTACT:

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 & ScubaH2O Adventures reserves the right to refuse service to anyone it chooses. © 1997-2019 Scuba H2O Adventures. All rights reserved.

Publisher: Selene Muldowney | selene.dnn@gmail.com
 Senior Editor: John Tapley | dnn.editor@outlook.com
 Interns: Andrew Pierzchala, Reagan Muldowney
 Regional Correspondents: Gary Lehman - NE, John C. Fine - SE
 Environmental Consultant: Bonnie McKenna
 Advertising Sales: Rick Stratton, rickstratton.dnn@gmail.com
 www.ScubaH2OMag.com

The contents of SCUBA & H2O Adventure are opinions of individual writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of the publisher, editor or any of its staff. The publishers and contributors assume no responsibility for any mishap claimed to be a result of use of this material. Adventure sports contain inherent risks. Improper use of equipment or improper techniques may result in serious injury or death. Readers are advised to use their own best judgement in each individual situation. 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!

SOUND BITES

SCUBAH2OMAG

Shout-outs!

Join the conversations at:
<https://www.facebook.com/scubah2omag/>

FACEBOOK

t's ok is not a solution.

IO News
 1 at 10:33 AM

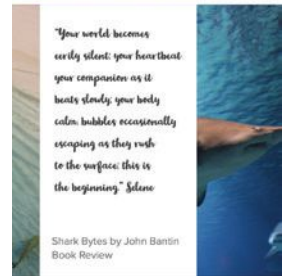
Environmental group said the garbage recovered from the stomach included a corrugated tube for electrical wires, shopping bags, tangled fishing lines and a water package with its bar code still legible.



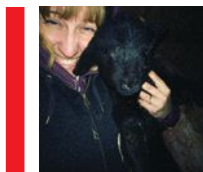
S.COM
 Residents alarm after 48 lbs of plastic found in

INSTAGRAM

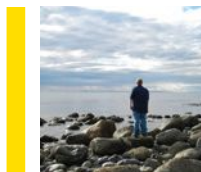
Book review on John Bantini's impressive impression on sharks: Shark Bytes is a great read - a must read for any ocean aficionado. John Bantini, Fernhurst Books #bookreview #sharkbytes #fernhurstbooks #johnbantini #sharkbytes http://www.fernhurstbooks.com/publication/?p=578820&p=68



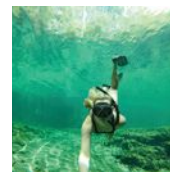
Regular Contributors



SELENE MULDOWNEY



JOHN TAPLEY

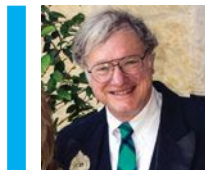


CAITLYN RUSKELL

Caitlyn is Content Writer and Editor for Divers Alert Network in Durham, NC. She is an active PADI and NAUI Instructor, RAID Rebreather Instructor and graduate of the University of Georgia.

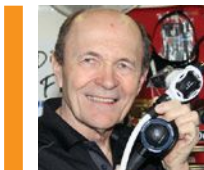


A BEACH IS NOT ONLY A SWEEP OF SAND, BUT SHELLS OF SEA CREATURES, THE SEA GLASS, THE SEAWEED, THE INCONGRUOUS OBJECTS WASHED UP BY THE OCEAN. **HENRY GRUNWALD**



GARY LEHMAN

Gary came to diving later than most, and loves to get away when he can – which is not enough! Some of the most memorable experiences ever for Gary have been underwater with his club buddies, turtles and sharks! When not diving or thinking about it, he writes about it!



ALEC PEIRCE

Alec Peirce is recognized as one of the finest scuba diving presenters of his generation. He holds instructor certifications with seven different scuba training agencies plus many honorary awards from the scuba industry including the prestigious "Platinum Pro 5000 Diver".



ELIZABETH BABCOCK

Elizabeth Babcock, LCSW has been a certified diver since 2000. She is a psychotherapist and community educator who has written extensively on topics of interest to anyone seeking to maximize their health and overall enjoyment of life, though her primary specialty is the treatment of overeating. She recently published "[Why We Overeat and How to Stop.](#)" (available at Amazon.com).



JAMES LAPENTA

I am a recreational and technical SCUBA Instructor whose primary goal is to create divers that are safe, skilled, and competent. I'd rather lose business than certify an unqualified diver. It is my moral and ethical duty to call out unsafe practices, standards, and those who defend or use them.



BONNIE MCKENNA

Destined to a life with adventure, Bonnie McKenna took her open water dive in 1955 with no wetsuit or BCD, a J-valve tank, double hose regulator, and fins that weighed a ton. She explored the world, with camera in hand, as an international flight attendant. Now retired, she spends her time working as a photojournalist and conservationist.



JOHN C FINE

The author Dr. John Christopher Fine is a marine biologist, Master Scuba Instructor and Instructor Trainer. He is an expert in maritime affairs and has authored 26 published books. His large format coffee table book: *TREASURES OF THE SPANISH MAIN* contains information and photographs of Spanish colonial shipwrecks.



GENE PETERSON

An accomplished wreck explorer, historian, speaker, instructor, and business owner, Gene is a man who wears many hats, and who has made significant strides in surfacing the deep history of New Jersey shipwrecks. Gene has over 40 years of experience in these fields, and we look forward to sharing his stories and expertise in future editions.



MICHAEL SALVAREZZA

Michael Salvarezza and Christopher Weaver have been diving the waters of the world since 1978. In that time, they have spent thousands of hours underwater and have accumulated a large and varied library of photographic images. They have presented their work in many multi-media slide presentations, and have appeared previously at Beneath the Sea, the Boston Sea Rovers Underwater Clinic, Ohio ScubaFest and Our World Underwater.

Eco-Photo Explorers (EPE) is a New York based organization and was formed in 1994 to help promote interest in protecting the environment through knowledge and awareness through the use of underwater photography.



CHRISTOPHER WEAVER



JEFFREY GALLANT

Jeffrey Gallant is the Editor of the Diving Almanac and a shark researcher. He started diving at age 14 in 1982 and has since led scientific and training expeditions around the world. Among other accomplishments, Gallant was trained as an aquanaut in Romania in 1995 and he dove with Equipe Cousteau in 1999.



© Eco-Photo Explorers

NIGHT OF THE MANDARINFISH

MICHAEL SALVAREZZA & CHRISTOPHER P. WEAVER

We knew the sun was setting because with each passing minute the water was getting darker and our lights more and more necessary. We had been sitting alongside a small pile of coral rubble at a place known as Pintu Colada in North Suluwesi's Lembeh Straight for well over an hour, resting virtually motionless on the bottom, and the anticipation was building. Our quarry: The elusive Mandarinfish (*Synchiropus splendidus*). Our objective: photograph their fleeting mating dance.

Mandarinfish are among nature's

most beautiful creatures. Their extreme coloration is normally a mix of dark blue with orange and yellow wavy lines, resembling the gaudy coloring of the robes of Imperial Chinese officers, known as mandarins. However, hues of purple and green can also be seen on their bodies. The brightly colored Mandarinfish (or Mandarin Dragonet) should not be confused with the brownish fish, also called the Mandarin Fish or Chinese Perch. Divers are hard pressed to find a more beguiling fish, and they travel to remote locations just to get a glimpse of these fascinating fish. Lembeh Straight, in Indonesia,

is one of those places.

These fish are difficult to find during the day. Most successful Mandarinfish dives occur at night, but in order to witness and possibly photograph the actual mating of these fish, divers must time their dives for dusk. And be aware: Mandarinfish fish are extremely tentative and nervous. The slightest movement, even from breathing, can scare them away; many underwater photographers have only come away from these dives with nothing more than frustrating photographs of the tail end of these fish as they dive into

their burrows and crevices.

To find a Mandarinfish, divers will usually need to search through piles of coral rubble or in between branching corals, where the fish might be spotted hopping along the branches. They swim by rapidly pulsating their fins but more commonly they seem to almost be creeping tentatively along the bottom. These fish usually inhabit fairly shallow water, with depths not exceeding 18m (60 feet).

As a predator, Mandarinfish are cautious and picky eaters. They feed mostly on crustaceans and small invertebrates. The species is generally small, with most adult individuals measuring about 6cm (2 1/2 inches). Their body structure consists of 4 dorsal spines, 8 dorsal soft rays, no anal spines

and is scale-less. Although scale-less, Mandarinfish are protected from most parasitic skin diseases with the help of a mucous-coated slimy and smelly skin. It's not clear what eats Mandarinfish, but their wacky coloring and bad tasting mucous-coated skin is believed to discourage potential predators.

With our eyes adjusting to the dimming light of dusk, we suddenly began to spot a few of these elusive creatures. First one, then another, began to peek out from behind a pile of dead coral branches. Spotting the divers lying in wait, they immediately disappeared, only to reappear a few moments later. The urge to mate seemed to be overcoming their urge to hide!

We waited patiently. Our breathing

was slow and rhythmic, our movements gentle and barely perceptible. The cameras were set, the strobes armed...our job was to simply wait and be ready. Since it's best to observe Mandarinfish at dusk, we decided to set our camera focus lights (Light & Motion Sola Photo 600) to the low "red" setting, because the white light seemed to frighten them.

Mandarinfish mate only at dusk. Typically, 3 to 5 females will gather in a pile of rubble where males are known to visit. The males, for their part, will begin to display subtle courtship behaviors. After a careful and almost excruciatingly slow seduction, a female will decide to join a selected male, and the two will dart almost a meter off the bottom where they will exchange

UNDERWATER IN INDONESIA

egg and sperm before disappearing in a blink of an eye. This flash of nature's brilliance is what we were anxiously waiting for.

Our eyes strained in the growing gloom of night to watch this spectacle unfold. With bated breath, we waited...and waited... and then, suddenly, it happened. In a matter of a second or two, a pair dashed off the reef bottom, clung together momentarily, and then disappeared. Our camera shutters triggered, the strobes fired and we prayed that we captured what

we came to see. Soon enough, we nervously peeked at our camera's display to see if we captured the images we longed for.

Success!

Sadly, the mating of the Mandarinfish was over for the night. We only had one opportunity to photograph this amazing display, and we did!

With that brief embrace, the pair released a cloud of eggs and sperm that would fertilize and then drift

in the ocean currents. Within 24 hours the eggs would hatch and tiny planktonic larvae Mandarinfish would float at the ocean's mercy until settling on a reef where they would end up living for some 10-15 years. For us, our objective had been met and we returned to the boat all smiles, anxious to see our images with better resolution and to share them with others.

Mandarinfish are found throughout much of the tropical western Pacific Ocean, including the coral triangle of Malaysia, Indonesia,

Broadclub Cuttlefish mating (*Sepia latimanus*)



© Eco-Photo Explorers

the Philippines and Australia. Unfortunately, despite being as shy as they are, Mandarinfish are threatened by overfishing, destructive fishing methods and habitat loss. Because of their brilliant and unique coloring, these fish are often sought after by the salt-water aquarium fish

trade. Since these fish are well known as being fussy eaters, many die because of incorrect feeding practices by inexperienced consumers. Others will perish due to the fact of being confined in aquariums is not suited for ideal living conditions. Regrettably, this wasteful practice is contributing to

their decline.

For us, the night of the Mandarinfish was a success. If you find yourself in a location known for spotting Mandarinfish, make sure you ask the local dive guides where to find them...and then be prepared to wait a long time for a



MEMBERSHIP. BENEFITS. YOU.

- + \$100,000 Emergency Evacuation Assistance
- + 24/7 Emergency Hotline
- + Medical Information Line
- + Access to Dive Accident Insurance Protection
- + Health And Diving Resource Library

DAN.org/JOIN

brief moment of exhilaration. It's worth it!

Getting To Indonesia

The best way to reach Lembah is via Silk Air into the city of Manado. A valid passport is required for entry, with enough blank pages for the mandatory tourist visa, which is purchased on arrival, and must be valid for 6 months after arrival.

Immunizations and Medicine

Make sure all your vaccinations are up to date! All travelers should visit their personal physician or a travel health clinic to discuss what vaccinations (Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, Malaria, Typhoid, and Tetanus-diphtheria) and travel medicine are recommended. All medicine should be packed in their original, clearly labeled containers. Having a signed and dated letter from a physician describing



A pair of Banggai Cardinalfish (*Pterapogon kaudemi*)



© Eco-Photo Explorers

your medical conditions and medications is suggested.

Note: Travel health clinics usually provide more detailed health protection measures since they specialize in travel medicine. Beware of travelers' diarrhea, which is the most common travel-related ailment. Insect protection is a must and essential!

Baggage

Baggage allowances vary for each international carrier so check before you leave.

Weather

Indonesia has an equatorial tropical climate. October through April

is the wet season. May through September is the hottest time of the year, with temperatures in the 80s (27°C) and 90s (32°C) Fahrenheit each day. Tropical downpours are common, although severe storms such as pacific typhoons are very rare.

Currency

The local currency is the Rupiah (Rp) but US Dollars are often accepted at all resorts.

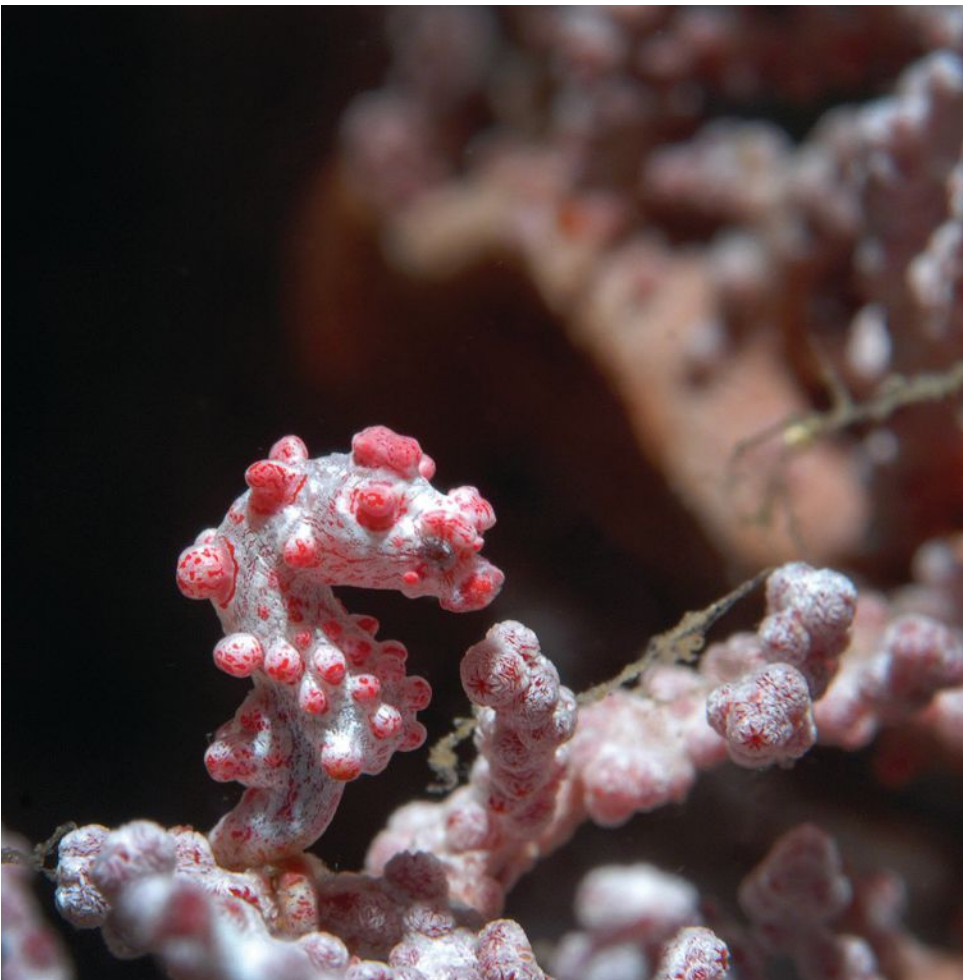
Electricity

Power voltage used in Indonesia is 220 Volts (50 Hz). Be sure to double-check your appliance's compatibility before plugging them in. Converters / adaptors are

usually available upon request at your hotel front desk.

Customs

There are a number of different religions that are practiced in Indonesia, Muslim being the most predominate at about 87 percent. Although Christianity is a minority religion in Indonesia, it is not evenly spread throughout the region. It is important to note, Indonesia is a conservative nation and appropriate attire, and cultural sensitivities are important. Check with guidebooks for specific tips on how best to avoid offending the local population.



Dive Into the Caribbean of the Midwest Haigh Quarry

We offer
FIRST CLASS diving
with everything you
need for a great dive
& exciting adventure!

**Airfills | Nitrox
Diving & Classes
Recreational Scuba
Equipment Rentals**



www.haighquarry.com

Ph: (815)939-7797

2738 E 2000 North Rd
Kankakee IL