

Scuba & H2O

YEARLY SUBSCRIPTION \$20

ADVENTURES MAGAZINE

20 HSDA UNVEILS ADAPTIVE DIVING TO VETS

32 RE-OPENING THE PONQUOGUE BRIDGE

DIVE INTO HISTORY WITH ERIK PETKOVIC

62

Contents

SEPTEMBER 2019

- 8 DC Dive Show**
HOSTS SCUBA EXTRAVAGANZA
- 10 DIVEHEART**
A BEACON FOR ADAPTIVE DIVING
- 16 TIME CONCEPTS**
INTRODUCES MIX OF DIVE WATCH BRANDS AT DEMA
- 20 HSDA UNVEILS ADAPTIVE DIVING TO VETS**
MISSION COMPLETE
- 24 BIA WATCH BRAND**
MISSION OF SUPPORTING WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT
- 28 DIVERS ALERT NETWORK**
THE MAMMALIAN DIVE REFLEX AND FREEDIVING SAFETY
- 32 RE-OPENING THE PONQUOGUE BRIDGE**
A DIVE ON THE OLD PONQUOGUE BRIDGE
- 40 VINTAGE SCUBA**
SNORKELS OLD & NEW
- 44 BASIC SKILLS**
DOES RENTING OR OWNING MAKE SENSE
- 46 ALEC TECH TIPS**
NAUTILUS LIFELINE REVIEW
- 49 WHAT IS IT?**
CAN YOU IDENTIFY THIS GEAR?
- 52 WHALE OF A TALE SERIES**
RETURN TO THE S.S. NORTHERN PACIFIC
- 62 DIVE INTO HISTORY WITH ERIK PETKOVIC**
PART THREE: NEWSPAPERS
- 68 BUSINESS PROFILE: VISIBLE 247 ILLUMINATES**
LIGHTEN UP!!



**BIA WATCH:
SUPPORTS WOMEN'S
EMPOWERMENT 24**



**VISIBLE 247
ILLUMINATES 68**

Publisher's Note: Giving Thanks!

You have heard the phrase "Be Grateful" and "Count your Blessings" and each day we strive to meet this objective; but let's face it, that is hard to do. Living with gratitude can be particularly challenging when we are bombarded with negative news, illness, and personal conflicts. Sometimes it is easier to think of all the bad things in this world; but we must realize there are good things, even in difficult times, for which we can give thanks.

As we prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving, let us reflect on our reasons to be thankful and resolve ourselves to give thanks both in our actions and words. This month we focus on our veterans and encourage you to take a moment to acknowledge their service and sacrifice, because of their commitment, we can live free and full of hope for the future.

Thanksgiving has many counterparts around the world in its celebrations. Regardless of its religious or historical significance and value, we all celebrate gratitude for our lives and the blessings we have. Many of our veterans have seen, felt, and experienced pains we want to ignore; they stand at the forefront to protect us from what ails the planet. For this I am grateful ... I am also grateful our citizens around the globe recognize their sacrifice and host programs like Diveheart and HSDA.

THERE IS
always
SOMETHING
TO BE
thankful
FOR
Selene Muldowney

About the Cover:

Ana Calvo shows off her perfect buoyance in Bonaire on a Diveheart Scuba Adventure Trip. Ana was born with no arms or legs, but with a little help from her Diveheart Adaptive Dive buddies and instructor, she was able to dive every dive site with the best of them.

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!

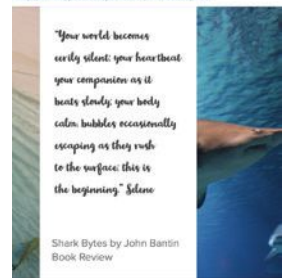
Join the conversations at:
<https://www.facebook.com/scubah2omag/>

FACEBOOK



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 #sharkbitesbookreview
<http://www.fppubs.com/publication/?v=578820&o=68>



TOWN SUPERVISOR JAY SCHNEIDERMAN CUTS THE RIBBON
UNDERWATER TO OFFICIALLY RE-OPEN THE BRIDGE

RE-OPENING THE P

ARTICLE AND PHOTOS BY MICHAEL SALVAREZZA & CHRISTOPHER P. WEAVER, ECO-PHOTO EXPLORERS

GRAND OPE

TING

A diver in a dark environment, possibly underwater, is holding a red sign that says "BRIDGE OPENING". The diver is wearing a black wetsuit and a diving mask. The background is dark and blurry, suggesting an underwater setting. The text "BRIDGE OPENING" is repeated on the sign and is partially visible in the background.

BRIDGE OPENING

In the hamlet of Hampton Bays on Long Island's south shore, a 2812-foot-long bridge spans the Shinnecock Bay. This bridge is made of concrete, rises to a height of 55 feet and was constructed in 1986 at a cost of \$14million. This modern bridge was designed to replace the original Ponquogue bridge, a 1000 foot long wooden drawbridge built in 1930.

With the construction of the new bridge, much of the original bridge was taken down. However, two sections, one on the north side of the bay and one on the south, were left intact as fishing piers. It is beneath these piers, and specifically the southern section, where SCUBA divers find an underwater paradise.

In the almost 90 years since its original construction, the wooden pilings and posts of the bridge have become home to innumerable marine creatures. One of the healthiest marine ecosystems along the entire shoreline of Long Island exists beneath this wooden section of bridge. Clusters of anemones, carpets of shellfish and layers of encrusting sponges cover the bridge structures to the water line, while crustaceans and large schools of fish find the bridge a safe place to live.

The stretch of marine landscape that the bridge covers is subject to swift and dangerous currents and tidal flows. While it is imperative that divers plan their dives accordingly, this water flow often provides clean and clear ocean water with great visibility.

BARRY LIPSKY (RIGHT) AND SOUTHAMPTON TOWN SUPERVISOR JAY SCHNEIDERMAN (LEFT) UNDER THE BRIDGE





CRABS SCURRY BELOW THE BRIDGE PILINGS

A dive on the old Ponquogue Bridge often begins on the shore along the east side of the bridge. From here, divers make their way alongside the roadside buttresses until they reach the start of the bridge's span. The water drops off quickly and in moments divers find themselves in 35-40 feet of water. With good visibility, navigation of the bridge underwater is easy as divers swim from piling to piling. Once divers reach the end of the bridge section, it is time to turn around. A protected marine park area covers the waters under the bridge but not beyond into the boat channel. And if the current should begin to tug at the diver, the dive must be terminated as the tidal changes are swift and the resulting currents can be impossible to manage.

Because of its proximity to the open Atlantic Ocean, the Ponquogue Bridge is home to myriad marine life. In the late summer and autumn months, tropical fish that have been swept north in the Gulf Stream show up here, looking for a respite and wondering how to get back home. Butterflyfish, Angelfish, Triggerfish and Grouper have all been observed under the bridge. Lucky divers will even occasionally find seahorses poking along the bottom beneath the bridge. Indeed, each season, fish collecting teams from Marine Aquariums around the country come here to capture these fish for their collections. Once the cold weather

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



sets in, these fish will die so this collecting of fish is a way to save their lives.

Several years ago, the town of Southampton declared the bridge obsolete and dangerous due to its deteriorating condition. Years of neglect and damage inflicted by winter storms and, significantly, from Superstorm Sandy made the bridge unsafe.

Plans were drawn up to dismantle the bridge. Destroying the Old Ponquogue Bridge would have removed one of Long Island's best dive sites and decimated an otherwise healthy marine ecosystem.

The Long Island Diver's Association (LIDA), led by Barry Lipsky, decided to act. Contact was made with Town of Southampton officials to learn more about the reasons for demolishing the bridge. Several LIDA members appeared before town officials at a public meeting to describe the underwater habitat, the value of the dive location to the local dive industry and the Long Island economy. Other interested constituencies, such as the local fishing community, joined the effort.

The concerted and sustained effort to work with the town to find alternatives paid off: the bridge removal effort was subsequently abandoned and, instead, it was decided that repairs would be made to the bridge to make it safe once again.

A construction company was contracted and work began shortly thereafter to inspect the integrity of the underwater pilings and to repair and resurface the above water portion of the bridge.

Ponquogue Bridge

Grand Opening of the Bridge

Ribbon Cutting 2019



PRESERVE CONSERVE



nauigreendiver.org
Follow us



NAUI Green Diver Initiative
Where leaders make a difference

Dive with Purpose!

Join Today!

DIVE INTO THE PAST AT HISTORY OF DIVING MUSEUM'S NEW FEATURED EXHIBIT:

DIVING WITH A PURPOSE, 15 YEAR ODYSSEY: RESTORING OUR OCEANS, PRESERVING OUR HERITAGE

ON DISPLAY
JAN - DEC 2019
VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR
SPECIAL EVENTS & INFO

EXHIBITS & MUSEUM STORE
OPEN DAILY 10 - 5

82990 OVERSEAS HWY, ISLAMORDA, FL
305-664-9737 | DIVINGMUSEUM.ORG

HISTORY OF DIVING MUSEUM IS A 501(C)(3) NON-PROFIT EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION



The Florida Keys
& Key West
come as you are



SHIPWRECK DIVING AT IT'S BEST

With service to Isle Royale National Park, the Northshore of Minnesota, and the Apostle Islands, these trips are sure to be a 'must do' on your summer 2019 list.

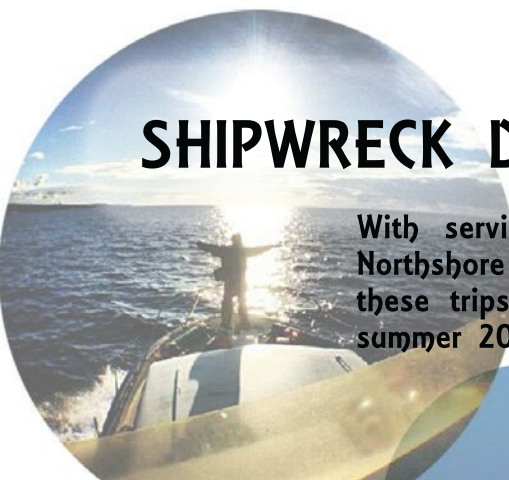


Follow us for your next
underwater adventure



WWW.ISLEROYALECHARTERS.COM

PH:855-DIVE IRC (348-3472)



The reconstruction project was launched in December, 2017, five years after Superstorm Sandy struck the region. The Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) approved the \$2 million project and the town was reimbursed for the renovation.

A new sustainable deck and handrail, new bulkhead, new recreational access ramps, improved access were all part of the renovations.

On September 29, 2019, almost two years after the start of the project, the bridge was officially re-opened to SCUBA diving with a unique ceremony. Under a clear blue sky and with a freshening easterly breeze, Southampton Town Supervisor Jay Schneiderman joined a group of LIDA members on a dive beneath the bridge to conduct a formal ribbon cutting ceremony.

The dive was timed to coincide with slack water after high tide, as is customary at this site, to avoid the strong currents that flow at other times. Unfortunately, the wind and waves, along with limited visibility, conspired to create some challenging conditions. But the divers persevered, and Jay Schneiderman proved up to the task as the team descended beneath the bridge, unfurled an official grand re-opening ribbon and with a snip of a giant pair of scissors by Schneiderman, the bridge was once again open for diving!

As if on cue, four Yellow Butterfly Fish swam by, giving Jay Schneiderman a peek at why this eco-system is so special. Other local marine life could also be seen, including shellfish beds, Horseshoe crabs, and other small crustaceans and fish.

After exiting the water, smiles were plentiful and the satisfaction of knowing that a precious dive site, a healthy ecosystem and a valuable local resource was preserved for current and future divers. In the end, the renovation of the Old Ponquogue Bridge is a success story in the effort to preserve the best of Long Island and serves as an example for how local government and concerned citizens can work together to resolve problems and challenges.



CHRIS WEAVER AND MIKE SALVAREZZA WITH JAY SCHNEIDERMAN (PHOTO BY J)



THE BRIDGE AS IT LOOKED BEFORE DAMAGE FROM SUPERSTORM SANDY



REHEARSE THE RIBBON CUTTING (ANINE FURCO)



THE PONQUOGUE BRIDGE IS A VERY POPULAR DIVE SITE FOR LONG ISLAND DIVERS

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**