



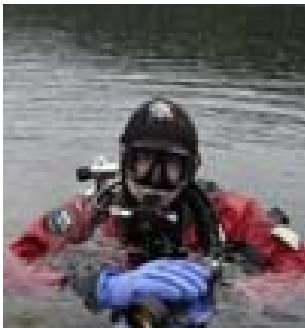
Dive into Adventure!
DIVESCAPES
Conference & Exhibition



The Alberta Underwater Council proudly presents:
DIVESCAPES 2006 – SPEAKERS SCHEDULE & BIOS
April 21, 22, 23, 2006

Welcome to all Divescapes 06 Silver, Gold and Seminar Ticket Pass Holders:

FRIDAY, 6:30 P.M. - JOHN McCUAIG: The exploration of a world filled with



mystery, beauty, excitement and adventure brought John into the diving industry in 1989. He soon progressed to Instructor in 1995, with an ever increasing interest in technical diving which led to his qualifications as TDI Advanced Trimix Instructor and TDI Instructor Trainer. Alberta based John's desire for scuba adventures have caused him to lead expeditions (both recreational & technical) to B.C.'s varied coastal locations, plus to the Caribbean, Yucatan, Mexico and even Scotland. His varied career in the scuba industry has extended from instructor to small dive boat operator, from underwater photographer, to former dive store owner. The next challenge was Cave Diving and that led to his experiencing the superb crystal caves of the Mayan Riviera in Mexico.

Please join John on the Friday evening of the AUC's DIVESCAPES 2006, as he relates his enthusiasm and excitement for diving the fascinating caves in Yucatan, Mexico.



Photo © Steven J. Auer

Friday, April 21st, 2006

8:00 P.M. – Freediving - Mandy-Rae Cruickshank and Kirk Krack



Mandy-Rae Cruickshank

Born in Canada in 1974 and raised in Edmonton AB, Mandy-Rae has been active in water related activities since before she could walk. Her competitive edge started at the age of nine when she started competing as a synchronized swimmer. At the age of 15, Mandy-Rae decided to get a little deeper and became a certified Scuba diver. After high school she decided to make diving her fulltime passion so she moved to Vancouver, BC and

became a PADI Instructor and then PADI Course Director.

It wasn't until 2000 that Mandy-Rae was introduced to Freediving by coach Kirk Krack. It was an instant attraction. What better way to experience the sea and challenge yourself at the same time. By the end of the year Mandy-Rae placed 3rd in her first AIDA international team competition in Nice, France and had done 136 meters in the no-limits category. Since then, Mandy-Rae has gone on to capture ten National records and six World records. As a three time member of Team Canada she has been there to help the women's team two first places finishes in the last two AIDA World Championships.

Mandy-Rae currently teaches courses with Performance Freediving in Canada and abroad and works as the National Sales Rep at PADI Canada.

For more information on Mandy-Rae please visit her website at www.mandy-rae.com



Kirk Krack is a professional Freediving trainer and coach who have worked with eight current world record holders, including Tanya Streeter, Brett LeMaster, Mandy-Rae Cruickshank, Martin Stepanek, Eric Fattah and Karoline Dal Toe.

Kirk sits on the executive board of AIDA International and is also an AIDA International Judge where he actively judges world record attempts. He is also the founder and past president of the Canadian Association of Freediving and Apnea (CAFA) where he also organizes and runs regional and national competitions.

As captain of Team Canada for CAFA, he has successfully coached and managed the women's team two first place finishes at the last two AIDA World Championships. Last year Kirk was the lead organizer when CAFA hosted the AIDA World Championships in Vancouver Canada.

Kirk has an extensive recreational and technical scuba diving background as an instructor trainer in Trimix and mixed gas diving as well as ice-diving and other related fields. With this experience Kirk has been involved in numerous Freediving events as diving supervisor, safety diver and videography for freediving pioneers like Pipin and Audrey Ferreras. Cont'd nxt pg.

KIRK'S BIO CONT'D.....

His experience in the technical diving industry has helped him achieve depths of 152 meters / 500 feet during a mapping project in the Cayman Islands, helped him develop businesses in Canada and the Cayman Islands. His diving industry business experience started when he bought his first dive shop in Saskatoon in 1990 at age 20.

Currently he runs his company, Performance Freediving International, where he conducts educational clinics, provides different training service and conducts motivational seminars. Kirk also trains and coaches Mandy-Rae Cruickshank and Martin Stepanek of the Performance Freediving Team at different world record attempts and competitions.

Web site: www.performancefreediving.com

DIVESCAPES - VIP RECEPTION & SPECIAL GUEST
SPEAKER NOTE: AVAILABLE TO GOLD/SILVER PASS
HOLDERS ONLY:

FRIDAY, April 21st, 2006 – 9 P.M. – 10:30

9:30 P.M. – Dan MacKay- The HMS Repulse



Dan has had a long and varied career. Starting with the military as an army communicator, he completed tours of the Canadian Airborne Regiment, six years in Europe, and was a demonstration jumper with the Canadian Forces Parachute team the *Sky Hawks*. Retiring in 1992, he went to College and graduated with distinction as a Software Engineer in 1995.

He began diving in 1992 but in 1997 he began diving in earnest and pursued a career in the diving industry. He became the only Canadian Global Underwater Technical instructor in the fall of 1999. In the year 2000 he founded Northern Tech Diver in Kingston, Ontario.

Dan currently teaches technical diving internationally full time. He is an avid videographer, photographer and author. He typically completes over 300 dives a year, about half of which are mixed gas technical OC or Rebreather dives. In his spare time over the last year, Dan completed his Private Pilot's license as well.

Join Dan as he shares with us the HMS Repulse Expedition 2004

Cont'd next page:

Special Guest Speaker: Dan McKay Cont'd

HMS Repulse Expedition 2004



The HMS Repulse began her life as a 26,500-ton Renown class battle cruiser on the 24th of January 1915 when builder John Browns laid down her keel in Clydebank, Scotland, and was launched on the 8th January 1916. The HMS Repulse had a long career. She saw battle at the tail end of the First World War as well as half way through the Second World War.

In October, 1941 the Repulse joined the Eastern Fleet to form what was to become known as the ill-fated Force Z. On December 8, 1941, the HMS Prince of Wales and the HMS Repulse, in the company of their destroyers, left Singapore naval base without air support. They were attacked by Japanese torpedo bombers in the South China Sea off the coast of Malaysia. HMS Repulse sank at 12.35 hrs, with the loss of 513 men. The loss of the Repulse and Prince of Wales was a tremendous blow to the British. Both ships are officially listed as British War Cemeteries.

Saturday- April 22nd, 2006 : Available to all Silver, Gold and Seminar Pass Ticket Holders: 8:30 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.

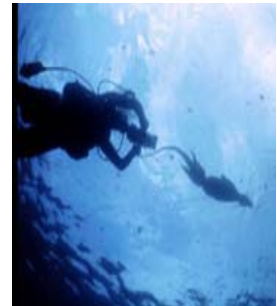


**8:30 A.M. Daryl Cyr – Caradonna Dive Adventures/
 DaSilva Dive Tours**

Darrell Cyr

As a native Calgarian I grew up like most Calgarians with a desire to be in the outdoors. After high school I pursued a career in the trades and became a Journeyman Electrician. Just as I obtained this status the job market crashed along with oil prices, hence my exit from this field of endeavor.

Hey, it was time to think about what to do next! My real love was the outdoors so it was back to the University of Calgary where I enrolled in the Physical Education department. Here I pursued a degree in you guessed it, Outdoor Pursuits. It was the last year of University where I was introduced to diving and what an introduction. My course was a full semester and wound up on the West Coast of Canada, in a place called Galiano Island. I was joined by my then infant daughter Karah and spouse Delia. I became a certified diver and the year was 1988. What was going to be just another one of the many outdoor activities I did has now become a full time career. Along the path of this aquatic journey it has seen me become a NAUI Instructor and Course Director. After 10 years of teaching, 1500 plus dives I have had many great experiences while introducing people to the amazing underwater world of diving, at the West Coast of Canada, in local lakes and in many exotic, warm water travel destinations.



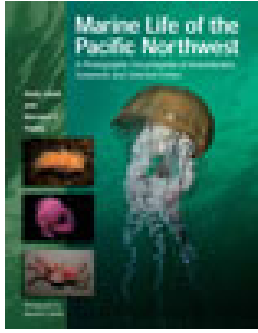
It was at Calgary's first ever NAUI Instructor training course that I meet my partner Luke DaSilva. After teaching him to be an instructor he turned around and introduced me to the world of dive travel. We saw a need and it was out of this relationship we created DaSilva Dive Tours. Is this a great job or what! You bet I've struggled making a living but the places I've been, and the things I've seen plus the people I've meet along the way are worth more than any amount of money. What's in store for the future? Well, my wife Delia is a diver, Karah (17) wants to be one and Nigel (13) hates swimming at the surface, so with the world being made up of over 70% water we have a lot of exploring to do!



Please come and join me very early Saturday morning at DIVESCAPES '06 as we visit the dragons and then explore the unique underwater world near the Komodo Island, Indonesia



SATURDAY, April 22nd, 2006



10:00 A.M. – Andy Lamb – Marine Life of the PNW – The genesis of a book, Andy Lamb is a marine naturalist and educator who has worked as Chief Collector at the Vancouver Aquarium and as a fish culturist with Fisheries and Oceans Canada. He has contributed to Diver, Western Angling, Nature Canada and Skin Diver and is the co-author of Coastal Fishes of the Pacific Northwest. In 1986 Andy Lamb released the soft cover “Coastal Fishes of the Northwest” a must-have book for every diver that visits the region to include in their dive bag. After 8 printings and 33,000 copies sold, Andy, along with Bernard Hanby follow up with

the spectacular hardcover “Marine Life of the Pacific Northwest-A Photographic Encyclopedia of Invertebrates, Seaweeds and Selected Fishes”

With 1,700 superb colour photographs of over 1,400 species, “Marine Life of the Pacific Northwest” is the most comprehensive collection of photographs of Pacific Northwest marine life ever published. Andy will let is on what it took to put together a book of this magnitude.

SATURDAY, APRIL 22nd, 2006

11:30 A.M. - Dan MacKay – Diving Kingston Ontario and The Saint



Lawrence Seaway – for Dan’s bio, see Friday’s VIP Special Guest Speaker for Gold/Silver Pass holders

Dan is back again showing us the thrilling and interesting diving to be found in the Kingston area and up the St. Lawrence Seaway. Fully intact wooden wrecks over one hundred years old are the main feature but there is plenty of fish life to be seen as well. And would you believe the warmest waters north of Florida?

SATURDAY, April 22nd, 2006

**1:30 P.M. – Enrique Castillo, La Paz, Sea of Cortez, MEXICO
– Owner of Fun Baja Diving**



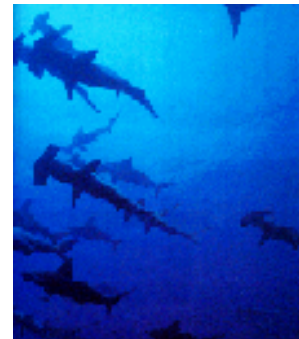
Join Owner/Operator, Enrique Castillo, as he talks about the services offered by Fun Baja Diving which includes daily scuba diving tours, snorkeling, whale watching tours and kayaking tours. They also offer camping & diving safaris, as well as Baja's newest, largest and most modern retail dive store conveniently located at

the marina, close to downtown La Paz.

FUNBAJA will provide you with safe and comfortable dive trips in our fast 26, 28 and 35 foot dive boats. All boats are equipped a canopy for shade, a bathroom onboard and you'll be served the largest and best lunch you may have ever had on a dive boat.



Spanish, English and Japanese are fluently spoken by our staff and we will ensure that you feel right at home. FUNBAJA will take you to the most exciting dive sites around La Paz to dive with the sea lions, hammerheads, mantas and whale sharks.



OR you can enjoy action packed days and relaxing nights, camping and diving in luxurious comfort on the irresistible island of Espíritu Santo.

We provide you with the perfect opportunity to experience the essence of Baja, you are just minutes away from the world renowned dive sites of El Bajo and San Francisquito Islands... home to the world famous resident Hammerheads, 20ft Pacific Mantas and Sea Lion Colony. Also, each year at this time, the Whale Sharks of the Sea of Cortez frequent these nutrient rich waters. The Camping Safaris allow you to maximize your time in the water with these magnificent creatures, while experiencing warm hospitality and pampering at one of the most deluxe diving camps available anywhere in the world.

SATURDAY, APRIL 22nd, 2006

3:00 PM – Donnie Reid, Vancouver Aquarium – Mars on Earth



Join Donnie as he talks about the interesting formations in Pavilion Lake, near Kamloops, BC. These formations has scientists from such organizations as NASA, Stanford and SETI (Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence) buzzing in that they may be related to similar features on Mars. Donnie became involved with the research in Pavilion Lake in 1997 when he was asked by a friend to photograph the “freshwater corals” in the Lake. He returned to the Lake with a team of researchers in 1998, which led to the October 2000 *Nature* paper. Then in 2004 Drs. Darlene Lim and Bernard Laval asked him to be the Dive Safety Officer and photographer for the Pavilion Lake Research Project.

Donnie has been diving for the past 22 years. Most of that time has been spent diving in the coastal waters of British Columbia. The first 10 years, he was heavily involved in dive instruction having certified over 2000 entry-level divers. During this time he became involved in underwater photography under the mentoring of Neil McDaniel, a world-renowned underwater photographer.

Due to the photography, Donnie has been a member of numerous projects and expeditions -

- 1995: deep-water photographer for an expedition to the wreck of the *Transpac*. Images and article by him appeared in the technical diving magazine, *Immersed*.
- 1996: became full cave diver certified to photograph caves in the Yucatan for *Diver Magazine*.
- 1997: was photographer for a project in Eastern British Columbia studying turn-of-the-century wrecks in Kootenay Lake.
- 1998: photographer for the *Nature* paper on Pavilion Lake.
- 2000: photographer/writer for an article on the wreck of the *SS Yongala* for *Diver Magazine*.
- 2003: still photographer for an expedition to the Bowie Seamount.
- 2004: underwater photographer for the MATE ROV National Competition at UCSB.
- 2004: photographer and DSO for the Pavilion Lake Research Project.

From the summer of 2000 until present, Donnie has been the Diving Safety Officer for the Vancouver Aquarium Marine Science Centre. As DSO his responsibilities are the development and monitoring of the science diving program for the Aquarium. This entails maintaining the diving authorization for over 30 divers, ensuring that the diving program meets CAUS and WCB regulations to running the dive show Underwater BC.

SATURDAY, APRIL 22nd, 2006

4:30 P.M. - Brian Nadwidny- Diving the deep Halifax shipwrecks.

In 2002 and 2003, Brian was involved in expeditions of Alberta technical divers to dive and search for shipwrecks off the coast of Nova Scotia, near the approaches of Halifax. The logistics of setting up a totally self-sustained trip such as this involved a great deal of planning and organization (and money). Each diver involved was required to move 600 -700 pounds of personal gear 5000 kilometers. Additionally, team items such as a compressor and Haskell booster also needed to be shipped. Large amounts of helium and oxygen had to be stockpiled, accommodations arranged and boats chartered. In the end, this proved well worth the effort, as the 2003 expedition led to the discovery of the Athelviking.



On January 14, 1945, U1232 under the command of Kapitän zur See Kurt Dobratz, was lurking perilously close to Halifax. On this day, the U1232 managed to sink 3 merchant ships and narrowly missed a Royal Canadian Navy escort vessel with its 4th shot. Despite being within sight of the

mainland and only 20 miles from Halifax itself, the U1232 escaped and eventually her captain became the last Commanding Admiral of the U-boats.

Brian's presentation will focus on two casualties of this remarkable day, the tanker British Freedom, and molasses carrier Athelviking. The highlight of the trip was undoubtedly the discovery of the Athelviking, sitting since 1945 upright in 310' of water. She has remained undisturbed since the 1970's, when navy divers conducted a few exploratory dives. Other wrecks explored were also WW2 casualties; the Kolkhoznik (sank in 1942) and the Kaaparen (1942). The presentation will also discuss the trials, tribulations (and politics) of diving far from one's home base.

Brian resides just outside Edmonton in Sherwood Park, Alberta. He started diving in 1980, but it wasn't until 1989 when he moved to Nova Scotia for a 2 year period, that his fascination with shipwrecks began. He holds a particular fondness for those shipwrecks found in the approaches to Halifax. While most of his diving these days is done off the West Coast of Canada, due to his location long distance travel to dive is a necessity. His dive travels have taken him all over the world, including Scapa Flow, the Shetland Islands and a year in Australia.



Brian retired from the world of the employed in 1989 and since 1996, most of his diving has been of the "technical" variety. His interest in underwater videography began in 1998 and he enjoys the challenges of imaging deep shipwrecks. He was recently cave certified and looks forward to capturing images of that realm in the future.

Brian is a current NAUI instructor and has held instructor ratings from SSI and IANTD. He has been published in *Diver Magazine* and currently serves on the Board of the Alberta Underwater Council.



Dive into Adventure!
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Saturday, APRIL 22nd, DIVESCAPES 06

FILM SHOW — (held after a delicious buffet- dinner tickets available with Gold Pass or separately, see Divescapes Tickets Order form on the website for prices.) Film Show tickets available separately or with your dinner or Silver or Gold pass ticket holders, see Divescapes tickets Order Form on website for prices.

Film Show Starts at 8:30 P.M – 11 P.M. (approx)

Mandy-Rae Cruikshank –



Free Diving

-See Friday’s schedule for Mandy-Rae’s bio



James Delgado – *Adventures of a Sea Hunter*



James P. Delgado, FRGS

James P. Delgado has led or participated in shipwreck expeditions all across the globe. His undersea explorations around the world include RMS Titanic, the recent discoveries of Carpathia, the ship that rescued Titanic survivors, and the notorious “ghost ship” Mary Celeste, as well as surveys of USS Arizona at Pearl Harbor, the sunken fleet of atomic-bombed warships at Bikini Atoll, the polar exploration ship Maud, wrecked in the Arctic, and the 1846 wreck of the United States

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Delgado Cont'd

.....naval brig Somers, whose tragic story inspired Herman Melville’s Billy Budd. His archaeological work has also included the excavation of ships and collapsed buildings along the now-buried waterfront of Gold Rush San Francisco.

Delgado is executive director of the Vancouver Maritime Museum in Vancouver, British Columbia. Previously, he was the head of the U.S. government’s maritime preservation program and was the maritime historian for the U.S. National Park Service. When not at the museum, he is the co-host of the National Geographic International television series *The Sea Hunters* along with best-selling author Clive Cussler. The show is now in its fifth season. Delgado’s other television credits include specials for the Discovery Channel, National Geographic Explorer, A&E, the History Channel, and ABC. Delgado’s active participation in the study and preservation of shipwreck sites and maritime heritage has included a founding membership in the International Commission on Monuments and Site (ICOMOS) committee on underwater cultural heritage and the presidency of the Council of American Maritime Museums. He also enjoys a more hands-on approach to preservation, and most recently led the crew that restored Ben Franklin (PX-15), a 130-ton oceanographic research submersible originally built in Switzerland for famed undersea explorer and scientist Jacques Piccard and most famously employed on a historic 30-day “drift mission” along the eastern seaboard of the United States in 1969. He is considered one of the world’s foremost marine archaeologists.

A Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society and a Fellow of the Explorers’ Club, Jim is the author or editor of nearly thirty books and numerous articles, most recently *Lost Warships: An Archaeological Tour of War at Sea* and *Across the Top of the World: The Quest for the Northwest Passage*, both international best-sellers published simultaneously in North America and Britain. His other books include *The British Museum Encyclopedia of Underwater and Maritime Archaeology*; *Ghost Fleet: The Sunken Ships of Bikini Atoll*; *Pearl Harbor Recalled: New Images from the Day of Infamy*; *Great American Ships*; *To California by Sea: A Maritime History of the Gold Rush* and three books for children, *Wrecks of American Warships*, *Native American Shipwrecks*, and *Shipwrecks of the Westward Movement*.



Adventures of a Sea Hunter-In Search of Famous Shipwrecks

North America's most accomplished underwater archaeologist explores some of the world's most famous shipwrecks, and shares his newest and most astounding discoveries.

As host—with novelist Clive Cussler—for the new National Geographic International television series *The Sea Hunters*—renewed for a fourth season—James Delgado

goes in search of, among others, the RMS Carpathia, the ship that rescued Titanic's survivors;
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Delgado Cont'd.....

Mary Celeste, the infamous “ghost ship” found sailing alone without a soul aboard in the mid-Atlantic in 1872; Vrouw Maria, a perfectly preserved Dutch cargo ship of 1771, discovered on the bottom of the Baltic Sea packed with cargo, including crates of long-lost Old Masters belonging to Empress Catherine the Great of Russia; the lost ships of the Mongol fleet of Kublai Khan that invaded Japan in 1274 and USS Mississinewa, the first ship sunk by a Japanese “suicide submarine” in WWII. Stories and personalities of the past are interspersed with visits and voyages around the world - crossing the Atlantic, drifting in a powerless ship at the mercy of gales in the heart of the Pacific, and navigating through the fabled Northwest Passage. The undeniable thrill of being where history was made makes Adventures of a Sea Hunter a highly entertaining, personal account of the exploration of the sea and the past that rests beneath the waves.



FOR MORE INFORMATION AND/OR

FOR DIVESCAPES 2006 TICKETS:

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