

Underwater Alberta



**ALBERTA
UNDERWATER
COUNCIL**

**Fall/Winter
2008/09**

Dive Alberta Events 09



DIVING IN BANFF IN DECEMBER?



Photo by: Greg Mossfeldt

A few hardy Alberta divers from Calgary & Edmonton took advantage of a very warm November & early December to dive at Lake Minnewanka at Banff. Just when I thought that diving on Nov 11th was crazy—cold—these guys were able to successfully dive on Dec 6th and on Dec 11th. Average water temperature was 35-36 degrees Celsius with an air temperature of 0 to plus 5 but when that mountain wind came up—the wind chill factor added to make it -5 to -10. Just 48 hrs later, Banff broke their record with overnight low of nearly -50C !!

Want to dive somewhere warm????

See inside this newsletter for the many upcoming dive trips that are being offered by Alberta Dive Centres, Instructors, Dive Clubs, etc, on pages 13 & 14th. For more info, about these trips, please be sure to use the contact info provided and confirm all the details, costs, terms & conditions, etc, before signing up - then have a safe & happy dive trip!

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Looking for dive events in Alberta in 2009?? Visit an Alberta Dive Centre near you & pick up a free AUC DIVE 2009 Event Calendar for listings of AUC Dive Alberta Events 09.

Mark your Calendar now for 2008 Dive Events & see the AUC's Website for Updates just prior to each Event:

- [April 25/09](#)
- AUC's AGM In Red Deer [May 16/17th/09](#)
- 46th Jasper Aquathon & River Race, Lake Cleanup [June 20th/09](#)
- Treasure Hunt—Twin Lakes [July 19th/09](#)
- Bow River Snorkel-Calgary [Aug 15th/09](#)
- U/W Dive Rodeo—Cold Lake [Aug 22/09](#)
- Bear Grass Dive— in Waterton [Sept 7th/09](#)
- Banff Lake Clean-up [Sept 19th/09](#)
- Gull Lake Cleanup [Sept 20th/09](#)
- Sylvan Lake U/W Clean-up [Sept 26/09](#)
- Pumpkin Dive —Wainwright [Oct 23/24/09](#)—DIVESCAPES Conference & Trade Show in Calgary

Underwater Hockey Dates:



Feb: 21/22/09—
Calgary Invitational
Tournament

May 17-19th Canadian National Championships at Kinsmen Centre

Other Important Dates in 2009

- [Jan 10/09:](#)
PSI Tank Visual Inspection
Course: \$325+ in Edmonton:
Contact: Perry: 780-720-5720
- Jan 24/24th— Vancouver Aquarium's Diver's Weekend
- Nov 4-7th—DEMA (Diving Equip. Mfg Assoc) Orlando, FL

Thanks

The CSAC & the AUC would like to especially thank Charlene Baker from Aqua Sport Scuba

Ltd for their donation of providing the many, many air fills that were needed this year for the new marker buoy system. Many thanks to the weekend dive warriors who assisted: Phillip Nelson, Tim Mathieson, Marlin Vergo, Brent Halling, Al Del Degan, Warren Robinson & Axel Kolleywyn. Volunteers for 2009: Contact: Warren Robinson: 403-519-2002. Your AUC Membership helps support this & other Alberta dive projects over the years and is most appreciated.



View of Diver above the Wheelhouse at 1912 Dam, Lake Minnie, Banff, Dec 2008

AUC MEMBER'S FREE CLASSIFIED ADS

FREE CLASSIFIED AD FOR ALL AUC MEMBERS!
 SUBMIT VIA PHONE OR EMAIL TO THE AUC
info@albertaunderwatercouncil.com

For Sale	Date	Description of Gear
#1004	08.07	BCD MARES VECTOR PLATINUM , size XL, Used only Once! Best Offer: Contact: info@albertaunderwatercouncil.com for seller #1004 info
#1005	09.07	Women's Medium WETSUIT Mark 7mm w/Wetsuit: Hood, Jacket, Farmer Jane: Like New: \$140, 5mm Whites Gauntlet Gloves : \$40 OBO, AKONA Roller Bag : 30x14.5, made from 600 D Poly with rust resistant hardware, w/wheels, carry compartments, etc. Perfect to carry all your scuba gear. \$250. obo Contact: info@albertaunderwatercouncil.com for seller #1005
#1006	09.07	Women's Bare WETSUIT —Prestige, 7mm, Great Condition, like new, size 7/8 fits approx 110-125 lbsx 5'2"- 5'5", Full Jane & separate Jacket. Hood Optional \$100. obo Contact: info@albertaunderwatercouncil.com for seller #1006
#1009	03.08	UNDERWATER HOUSING—SEA & SEA For NIKON D200 : Location Edmonton, House has been used on one dive trip & is in excellent condition. Reason for selling—switching to underwater video. Details: Sea & Sea CX-D200 Housing for Nikon D200: New: \$2496., Accessories: Fish-Eye Dome Port with Shade: (SS-56231) New: \$615, Custom Flat Port (SS-56231) New: \$480., Dome Port Cover (Neoprene SS 21211): New: \$50, AF Nikkor 10.5mm DX Focus Gear (SS-331120): New: \$230., AF-S CX Zoom Nikkor ED 12-24 mm F4G Zoom Gear (SS-31107): \$72.00, AF Micro Nikkor 50 mm F2.8 D Focus Gear & AF/MF Gear (SS-51399): New \$182., Total Value: \$4224.95 in US Dollars, Combo Price: ASKING: \$3600. OBO with no shipping charges, brokerage fees, exchange rate, gst, etc, Savings of approx \$1000.00. CONTACT: info@albertaunderwatercouncil.com for seller #1009
#1010	09.08	Sea-Quest Black Diamond BC for Sale. This BC is 5-6 yrs old with about 100 dives in 95% fresh water. BC is in excellent condition, back floatation style that can be rigged for dual tank setup. Also weight integrated, pouches included. Comes with metal d-rings & new Dive Rite Inflator. BC was recently inspected & is in good working condition. Asking \$350 OBO Contact info@albertaunderwatercouncil.com for seller #1010
#1011	10.08	Sea & Sea DX 800: 8.2 Mega Pixel CAMERA with Sea & Sea YS-55 TTL Strobe , depth rated 180 ft, includes Pelican case, 4 SD cards, 15 mm Wide Angle Lens, Lens Caddy, Camera Tray and Strobe Arms, extra O'Ring Kits, Manuals, New: \$3000. SALE PRICE: \$1600, reason for selling—upgraded to Nikon D 300 with depth rating to 330 ft. Contact: info@albertaunderwatercouncil.com , Seller #1011
#1012	10.08	Apex Computer Download Sync Cord : \$50.00 Contact: info@albertaunderwatercouncil.com , for seller #1012
#1013	10.08	CITIZEN UW DIVE WATCH complete with download cord, manuals & software: New: \$800, Asking: \$120 Contact: info@albertaunderwatercouncil.com for Seller #1013
#1014	10.08	Motor Marine II Underwater 35 mm Film Camera with Motor Marine 50 TTL Strobe : w/2 different UW Macro lens & carriers, 8 extra o-ring kits, Camera tray, Strobe Arm, Sync Cord, 16 mm Wide Angle Lens, Lens Caddy, original boxes & manuals, Depth Rating to 180 Ft, Reason for selling: own 2 other film cameras. Asking: \$340.00 Contact: info@albertaunderwatercouncil.com for Seller #1014
#1015	10.08	DiveRite HID 21 Watt CANISTER LIGHT —with 2 batteries, charger, video hood. Reason for selling—own 3 other canister lights. Asking: \$450.00 Contact: info@albertaunderwatercouncil.com for Seller #1015



DIVER'S TIPS & TRICKS

Do you have a handy dive tip or idea that you would like to share with your fellow divers?

If so, then this is the section for you! All relevant "tips and tricks" are welcome, just send your suggestions to the AUC office, attn: Newsletter Editor & we'll include them in the next newsletter!

DIVER TIP: TO PEE OR NOT TO PEE, THAT IS THE QUESTION (... in an exposure suit) The myths and realities of this uncomfortable predicament.

Some say there are 2 types of divers – ones that admit to urinating in their exposure suit during a dive and those that do it but do not admit to it!

Regardless of whether or not this is true, the following is some information to help:

Why does this happen?

For some it is from drinking too much or a diuretic (e.g. coffee) before a dive, for others it is the cold temperature on their nether-regions that triggers an urge to urinate, and for others still it is due to a medical issue.

How do I prevent the need "to go"?

Be hydrated for your dive, but not over-hydrated. Make sure you use the wash-room before you dive, and if possible, have your meal and drinks as early as possible before your dive so that it has time to make it through your digestive system. This should help prevent an, a h e m , " d i v e " e m e r g e n c y . Drysuits, rather than wetsuits, can also help keep your body warm "down there" so the urge to urinate does not occur. If the problem is due to a medical condition, you could discuss it with your doctor.

What if I, ...er, KNOW that I'll simply HAVE "to go" and won't make it to the washroom in time, no matter what precautions I take?

If you strain to "hold it in", you may actually cause health problems such as a bladder infection ("That's my excuse and I'm sticking to it...").

For wetsuits, it is advisable to actually drink MORE water (yes!) before the dive in order for the urine to be as dilute as possible. The reason being, concentrated urine has more of an impact on your suit (happy scrubbing) and if it remains on your skin for an extended period of time

(e.g. surface interval) then you can develop a temporary rash (diaper rash, anyone?).

Another trick to help save your suit is to either open part of it before you exit the water (brrr), in order to flush it out a bit, or after you exit the water you can simply take it off and rinse it (either in the water or with a hose – not in a rinse tank with people's gear!). Don't worry about people wondering what you're up to – when you're rinsing your suit, you can just say you got sand or ketchup on it, or someone sneezed on it, so you just want to wash it off. Seriously though, no one really cares, and if you have a carpool buddy, they will be HAPPY you've rinsed the suit rather than stinking up the car!

For drysuits, some designs allow for a special "pee valve" (P-valve or "overboard discharge") so you can, well, "go" on the go. This is used for example in commercial diving, when divers are working underwater for hours at a time, but make sure you signal your buddy before you use it if he's working downstream of you! You also have the option to wear an adult diaper (e.g. Depends) under your usual drysuit undergarments (no one could tell you had it on under your dry suit anyway). **CONT'D ON PAGE 7**

UNDERWATER CLUBS in Alberta—Underwater Hockey & Scuba

AUC welcomes you to the company of underwater enthusiasts from all across the province. Joining a dive or under water sports club offers you a great opportunity to have fun under-water and above water, with a group of similar minded individuals.

Many clubs also offer opportunities to continually improve your diving skills through ongoing training programs or travel. Meet new people and enjoy your sport! Join one today!

Alberta's Underwater Hockey Clubs

CALGARY:

Calgary Underwater Hockey Club Contact: www.calgaryunderwater.ca

EDMONTON:

Edmonton Underwater Hockey Association
edmontonunderwaterhockey.com



ALBERTA'S SCUBA CLUBS:

CALGARY—Scuba Clubs

Calgary Sub Aquatic
 Warren Robinson: 403-519-2002

Scuba Divers Dinner Group—
 Tony Lamb: (403) 283-3368
TonyLamb@shaw.ca

Underwater Outlaws
 Email: uoutlaw@telus.net
 Website: www.3.telus.net/underwater/outlaws/

COLD LAKE: - Scuba Club

4-Wing Cold Lake Scuba Club
 Larry Dublenko
 Wk: (780)840-8000, Ext.7959
Dublenko.AL@forces.gc.ca
<http://www3.telus.net/public/jjparr/clubs/scuba.htm>

Charles (RED) Ehrich
 780-639-4564



EDMONTON: Scuba Clubs:

AquaTek VooDoo Gas Divers
 Contact Via Email: Carol or Jeff
voodoogas@aquatekscuba.com
 Web Site: www.aquatekscuba.com

Edmonton Aquanauts
 Ken Kozak: (780) 960-0263
 email: KPSD@cruzinternet.com

Edmonton Pub Divers
 Brian Nadwidny
 email: nadwidny@gmail.com

U OF A Scuba Appreciation Club
scuba@ualberta.ca
uofascuba.com

Wing Divers
 Tom or Cathy Davies: (780) 462-1551
tedavies@telusplanet.net

SPECIALTY RESCUE CLUB:

Northern Alberta Aquatic Rescue Society (NAARS)
 Cliff Bergunde: (780) 450-1206
www.geocities.com/Yosemite/Trails/3310
 Email: naars-admin@shaw.ca

FORT McMURRAY: Scuba Club

Wet & Wild Diving Society of Fort McMurray
 9 Birch Rd, Ft McMurray, AB , T9K 1P2
www.ghptoto.ca/wwscuba/
 PH: 780-743-3123

GRANDE PRAIRIE: Scuba Club

Grande Prairie SCUBA Club
 Carsten Andersen 780-539-7595
 Lyndell Weldon 780-539-0562
 Email: donwel@telus.net

LETHBRIDGE: Scuba Club

Scuba Group Lethbridge
 Marni Anderson: (403) 328-5041
www.awesomeadventures.com

PEACE RIVER: Scuba Club

Jeff Protz: (780) 642-1619 jeff@protz.ab.ca

WAINWRIGHT: Scuba Clubs

Buffalo Divers - Andrew Laschuk:
 Phone: 780-842-6168,
 email: crusader@telus.net

Davco Diving Aquamaniacs
 Dave & Connie Faas: (780) 842-5559
www.davco.ca



Photo by: Greg Mossfeldt



NEWS FROM CALGARY UNDERWATER HOCKEY CLUB

The Calgary Underwater Hockey Club recently sent a team of ten players to San Jose to compete in the Pacific Coast Championships. Our team consisted of Sam H, Kirstie K, Harry K, Jordan F, Skyler N, Ellena L, Bryn D, Caleb K, Juliet K, and Coach/Player Myrna K. Our team did exceptionally well coming in second only to the Canadian Women's team. Canada had a very good showing overall. The final games of both the A and B divisions were played entirely by Canadian teams.

The CUHC welcomes anyone who would like to come out and try our breathless sport!

To contact us at www.calgaryunderwater.ca



See calgaryunderwater.ca for more info & contacts!



NEWS FROM EDMONTON U/W HOCKEY ASSOC

EUHC reports that a new executive was elected at the recent AGM and they are: Michael Bartlett - President, Dominique Adams - Vice President, Gillian Parker - Secretary, Dave Bortolin - Treasurer

EUHC POOL SCHEDULE—Monday's -Experienced players at **Hemingway (Coronation) Pool - 13808 - 111 Avenue**

Description: Octopushers adult fast game for moderate to experienced players at the Hemingway Pool.

Date: Monday, February 2, 2009

Repeat Type: Monday, September 8, 2008 (every Week, Mon)

Time: 7:30pm-8:30pm

Duration: 60 minutes

EUHC POOL SCHEDULE—Wednesday's Octopushers for beginners and adult fast game at Kinsmen Pool: 9100 Walterdale Road

Description: Octopushers, the first 45 minutes are for beginners and training. The last 45 minutes are is for the adult fast game for moderate to experienced players at the Kinsmen Pool.

Date: Wednesday, February 4, 2009

Repeat Type: Wednesday, September 10, 2008 (every Week, Wed)

Time: 8:00pm-9:30pm

Duration: 90 minutes



See edmontonunderwaterhockey.com for more information & contacts

DIVE ALBERTA 2009 EVENTS—Mark your Calendars & Make Plans to Join In Next Year at some of these FUN Dive EVENTS —Hosted by AB Dive Clubs, Dive Stores and/or the AUC



**AUC's
Dive Alberta
2009 Events**

Dive Alberta 2009

April 25/09: AUC's Annual General Mtg— not a diving event but your provincial scuba assoc. AGM with Lunch Social & Film Show

May 16/17th—JASPER AQUATHON with a River Race, Lake Cleanup & Dive Event on May Long Weekend, Jasper

June 20th—Twin Lakes—Wing Divers Club Treasure Hunt Dive Event & Lake Cleanup at Twin Lakes Training Facility near Winfield

July 19th—Bow River Snorkel Event—snorkel down the Bow River & enjoy the view of Calgary

Aug 15th—Cold Lake U/W Rodeo & Cleanup —hosted by Fort McMurray's Wet & Wild Diving Club

Aug 22nd—Waterton Bear Grass Dive— hosted by Lethbridge Scuba Club & Anderson Aquatics



Sept 13th—Banff Lake Clean-up—exact local TBA

Sept 19th—3rd Nick Young Memorial Gull Lake Clean-up—located on this year on NW side of lake @Parkland Beach

Sept 20th—Sylvan Lake U/W Clean-up— sponsored by North West Scuba Edm & local dive community, supported by Town of Sylvan Lk & local Boy Scouts & Guides participating in shore clean-up

Sept 26th—Wainwright Pumpkin Dive & Lake Clean-up —sponsored by Davco Diving & the Buffalo Divers Club @CFB Wainwright

Oct 23/24th—AUC's DIVESCAPES 09 CONFERENCE & TRADE SHOW at Calgary's Executive Royal Inn, NW. Keynote Speaker: TBA



ALBERTA UNDERWATER COUNCIL

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T5M 3K6

Phone: 780-427-9125

Toll Free Ph: 1-888-307-8566

Fax: 780-427-8139

E-mail:

info@albertaunderwatercouncil.com

WEBSITE:

www.albertaunderwatercouncil.com

*Supporting Underwater Sports
in Alberta since 1961*

FREE TO NEW MEMBERS— ONE YEAR AUC MEMBERSHIP ACTIVATION



Are you a certified diver or underwater hockey player?

Please print clearly the info below, then fax/scan/email/mail or phone

this info into AUC office to activate your 1st Yr AUC Membership Free!



Name _____

Address—Full Mailing Address _____

CITY/TOWN _____ POSTAL CODE _____

Phone _____ DATE OF BIRTH: M/D/Y _____ SEX: MALE/FEMALE _____

E—MAIL ADDRESS _____ Do you wish to receive monthly E-News Bulletins? _____

Dive Club or Dive Store Affiliation—if applicable, OR Underwater Hockey Club _____

PLEASE CIRCLE LEVEL OF CERTIFICATION: O/W DIVER ADVANCED DIVE MASTER INSTRUCTOR OR

UW HOCKEY: PLAYER COACH REFRREE OR OTHER: _____

Thank You for your support of the AUC!

A RECAP OF DIVE ALBERTA 2008 EVENTS—Mark your Calendars & Mark Plans to Join In Next Year at these FUN Dive EVENTS in 2009—Hosted by Dive Clubs, Dive Stores and/or the AUC

HOW DO I LIKE THE AUC EVENTS? LET ME COUNT THE WAYS!

~ by Rhonda Lee Curran **How would I describe them? An event summary and highlights from my perspective are provided below, but first and foremost, I recommend you DON'T MISS OUT!** :-

Jasper Aquathon and River Race (Jasper National Park) What could be more stimulating than floating down the Athabasca River rapids in nothing but an exposure suit, snorkel gear, and a make-shift floatation device? There are even prizes for the best costumes! Then take in a few dives in the beautiful, clear lakes nearby, not to mention the mountain vista. There are organized skill-testing dive events as well as time to spend at your own leisure in the national park.

Twin Lakes Treasure Hunt (near Winfield) Come see the variety of objects in this underwater playground! A toilet, a road sign, a BBQ, a sunken skiff, a treasure chest, and a big chicken (not a *real* chicken...) just to name a few! Practicing navigation and buoyancy control in this lake will boost your confidence and make you an even better diver. The on-land golf chipping contest is an added hoot.

Bow River Snorkeling Event (Calgary) Come take in a view of Calgary that most never get to see – from within the Bow River! Float down the river in your exposure suit and snorkel gear (no floatation devices for this one!). You can wave to curious onlookers, and may even be greeted by a flock of ducks. The current enables a wonderfully relaxing float down the river, but watch out for the bridge piers!



Jasper Aquathon Divers preparing for dive events at Lake Edith



Jasper Aquathon—Athabasca River Race Event—the Flintstone Family in fine form heading down the river!

Whoops—those Becker's Rapids were a little hairy for poor Fred & Wilma's car! Thank s to a 7mm wetsuit—not too chilly a dip in the river!



Prizes, Prizes & Good Food at Jasper Aquathon



2nd Prize Winner for Best Costume @ River Race: Mike & Jeff

Underwater Rodeo (Cold Lake)

What could be more unique than trying out a real spear gun (blunt tip – safety first!) on a bull's eye target during your dive? Then maybe taking in a game of underwater checkers, navigating the underwater course, and "treasure hunting" for golf balls! It's also a great location for a family week-end of camping.

Waterton Bear-Grass Dive (Waterton Lakes National Park)

Go wreck diving – in Alberta! The Wreck of the Gertrude is a steam paddle wheeler that was purposefully scuttled in Emerald Bay in 1918, right behind the famous Prince of Wales hotel. Participate in the organized dive events, then try some of the best hikes in Canada, or a relaxing boat tour to the U.S. side of the park. The experience of this scenic, relatively untouched area is truly magical.

Lake Minnewanka Underwater Clean-Up (Banff)

The "ledge"-shaped rocky bottom of the "cliffs" dive site is an exciting encounter. This area is frequented by those picnicking and fishing, so be prepared to find some unintended garbage that falls into the lake as well as many fishing lures and line. Lake Minnewanka boasts some of the best diving in Alberta, for those interesting in doing additional dive sites such as the old dam, bridge pilings, and the former town site.

DIVER'S TIPS & TRICKS—CONT'D FROM PAGE 2
To PEE or not to PEE

These products may be purchased at common stores such as a drug store or grocery; the different designs are described on the packages.

How to clean an, ...um, "contaminated" exposure suit?

Simply rinsing the suit isn't going to cut it, but it will do until you get home to wash it. You should use a designated wetsuit/drysuit shampoo or a mild soap to wash it thoroughly, working the soap into the suit's fibers as well as possible. Then it is highly advisable to use a bio enzyme (such as Sink the Stink, or MiraZyme) to kill any bacteria that may grow as well as to neutralize any adverse odours.

WARNING

Dehydrating yourself in hopes of not having to urinate can be DANGEROUS particularly for diving, e.g. it impacts a diver's ability to effectively decompress.

Furthermore, if you pee in a rental suit, you better be prepared to either BUY IT or sanitize it so there's not even a trace of your "donation" remaining! What you do in your own suit is your business, but what you do in a rental suit can be bad for business! ;-)

Submitted by
Rhonda Lee Curran



ALBERTA UNDERWATER COUNCIL

A RECAP OF DIVE ALBERTA 2008 EVENTS—Mark your Calendars & Mark Plans to Join In Next Year at these FUN Dive EVENTS in 2009—Hosted by Dive Clubs, Dive Stores and/or the AUC

Gull Lake and Sylvan Lake Combo Clean-Up Weekend -(at a specified part of these lakes)

We love to play in the water; let's do our share to protect it too! Gull Lake is relatively clean but we're still working on Sylvan Lake; anything from old bottles and cans to towels, tools, sunglasses, and cell phones or MONEY may even be found. Come dive and let the family enjoy a day at the beach at Gull Lake. Volunteers (e.g. divers, paddlers, shore support) are always appreciated at Sylvan Lake, as it is huge event. These locations are close enough to each other for a convenient camping weekend if desired.

Clear Lake Underwater Pumpkin Carving & Mystery Dive (near Wainwright)

Another navigation course exists here, but this one is aided by underwater guide ropes between stations. Come check it out – even "Ogopogo" (or a reasonable facsimile...) is here to see! The pumpkin carving contest is a fun challenge for both the experienced and first-timers. (Hint: pumpkins are buoyant in the water but you may not puncture the pumpkin with your dive knife until you've taken the pumpkin underwater with you!) Afterwards, join the local dive shop for "dive movie night", which is an added bonus to this season finale.

What is common to all these AUC events?

Great people + great food + great prizes = GREAT FUN! :-D The organizers even help pair you up with a dive buddy (or snorkel buddy) if you don't already have one!



NW Scuba's Photo Prize Winner: Lac Beauvert

Photo by: Brett Kauppila



Volunteer divers at Banff Lake Clean-up—2008



Garbage haul from Banff's Lake Minnie Cliff dive site, Sept 6, 2008



Volunteer Divers preparing to enter the Wilson's Beach site at Gull Lake 2008



Divers at Cold Lake Event: Photo by: Carmen Boisvert



Fabulous pumpkins carved underwater & topside



Group Picture of Participants at 2008 Pumpkin Dive

**2008 Underwater Dive Rodeo—
Cold Lake, AB**

SYNOPSIS: Hosted by the Fort McMurray Wet and Wild Diving Society, and Co-Hosted by the 4 Wing Divers from Cold Lake turned out to be a Great Success. The Rodeo turned out 52 divers and 11 shore support. The weather was a scorcher, but most stayed cool in the water. This year's events consisted of underwater checkers, spear gun target shoot, lost dive buddies, navigation poker rally, golf ball retrieval, and bouquets of fun. Diver's experience ranged from newly certified to the numerous instructors found teaching dry suit, nitrox and navigation courses, as well as several Dive Masters assisting those in need. If there is one thing I can say about divers, is that we are such a diverse group of people! Nothing I enjoy more than to see young, Junior Divers, as well as Aged and Experienced Divers come out to enjoy our event. We had prizes for everyone!!

Many thanks to the following Dive Shops & Organizations for their generous Donations for our event:

- Outdoor Essentials- Fort McMurray
- Davco Divers- Wainwright
- The Dive Outfitters- Edmonton
- Ocean Sports- Edmonton
- North West Scuba- Edmonton
- Aqua-Tek- Edmonton
- Alberta Underwater Council

Special **Thank You's** to Charles "Red" Ehrich, Bill "Grandpa" Lazenby & Ben's "Sandbox" Payette for setting up the course at the provincial park. These three work countless hours underwater to ensure we have a "Sand Box" to play in. As well, we can not have a successful event without Shore support.

Thank You's to Celine Payette, Debbie Parsons, and Kirk's Wife for their help with food prep and pick up, timing our divers in and out of the water, and being so accessible when needed.

Thank You's—Let us not forget Ron Cooper, Boyd Ash, Rob Duffy, Vincent Gauthier, and Daniel Gauthier for their assistance in set up and take down of the course. When small tasks need to be completed, you know you can always count on these guys!

And last, but not least, a big Heart Filled Thank You to the Divers from all over Alberta, for coming out and participating in our Underwater Dive Rodeo. It's you the Divers who make this day fun and exciting. I hope you had a wonderful time, and I look forward to seeing all of you again next year.

Safe and Happy Diving!!

Sincerely; Carmen Boisvert, Event Coordinator, Wet & Wild Diving Society of Fort McMurray



Introducing New AUC Board Member: Rhonda Lee Curran



AUC Board Member: Rhonda Lee Curran

On the Board of Directors since 2008

Member of the AUC since 2002

Loved the water since - 1976

Was able to swim the full width of a YMCA pool by -1978

Water experience (past/present): swimming (recreational and competitive), water skiing, lifeguarding and swim instructing, snorkeling, scuba diving, and triathlons— even tried under water hockey one time – Thanks, Gilles Benoiton!

Scuba diver certified 1998, open water diver, in Maritimes 1999, advanced open water, in Maritimes 2001 to 2007, various specialties, in Maritimes and Alberta 2006, rescue diver, in Alberta 2006, master diver (but not a professional "Dive Master" – *yer?*) Dive locations (so far...) Cold water: New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, "somewhere between NB and PEI", and Alberta. Tropical: Cuba, Belize, and Bonaire

Fun facts: certified in the Bay of Fundy, where there are the highest tides in the world (can be approx. 20 to 50 ft difference between low tide and high tide, so dive planning is key!)

dove in the "largest whirlpool in the Western Hemisphere", located between Deer Island, NB and Eastport, Maine

was a cold-water wetsuit diver for almost 10 years before opting for a drysuit

logged dive number 100 at Jacques Cousteau's famous Blue Hole, Belize (and no, she was not "naked" for her 100th dive, even though others told her that was the custom...)

Can be found at AUC events, U of A Scuba Club events, and Edmonton Pub Divers Nights, scuba diving, treasure hunting for underwater trash, floating down raging rivers, trinketing at dive shops, and assisting dive buddies with gear problems.

PLUS: hiking, skiing, stuffing face with food, struggling with grad courses part-time while working full-time, and smiling big when winning prizes at AUC events

Environmental focus:

environmental engineer by profession

AUC clean-up dives are some of her favorite dives!

Highlights of AUC Board Meetings:

August - Board Mtg Highlights: Present: Tom Davies, Dave Pohl, Gord Ross, Gilles Benoiton, Rhonda Lee Curran, Mike Hussey, Absent: Brian Nadwidny, Axel Kolleywyn, Tony Lamb, Jeff Grimson, Wayne Zimmerman. **President's Report:** Tom reported that we had some changes/corrections needed from our latest Gaming Audit Review for the Consolidated Gaming Report. We will set up an appointment & appeal to his supervisor. Tom reminded board members that in the late '70's, many lake cleanups were done by the divers & the AUC with several tons of garbage coming out of the Jasper area lakes & also in Banff. **Treasurer Report:** Dave reiterated the Gaming Report issue. We're expecting the Casino Funds shortly. As of Aug/08 the Calgary Bingo Account is closed & funds transferred to Cons. Gaming Account. Note that a few GIC's will be maturing soon. Cathie & Dave have plans to get together to work on Business Plan & Budget for 2009.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Attended the U-Haul's "Habbukuk" presentation in Jasper, Sent out latest Newsletter, visited Edm Dive stores & solicited for more Prizes, Attended the PADI Professional's Forum at NW Scuba on July 28th –spoke about the AUC & drew names for 2 T-Shirts, handed out Newsletter & signed up new members, Set up Poster for Cold Lake Event, Met with Carmen/Fort Mac Club & gave her prizes, gifts to Bill & Red, Report that many new members joining & lots of renewals coming in.

DIRECTOR AT LARGE REPORT –Gilles Benoiton: World's in South Africa was an awesome experience. Have been busy meeting with Water Polo

NEWS From AUC Board—cont'd

Club to share pool time on Weds at Kinsmen Pool. Calgary Club got extra kids from setting up a table at Wal-Mart, EUHC will be at West Edm on Aug 23 New Fund – Underwater Hockey Development Fund – will be working a few extra bingos this fall. **NEW BUSINESS:** DIVE FLAG AWARENESS SAFETY PROGRAM: Dive Flag Signs for Boat Launches are just about ready from ABC Signs. It also includes steel posts/hardware. They have offered to store them for us at this time but that might change. Cost: \$2457.00 for 30 Signs **NEW BUSINESS:** POTENTIAL PADI/AUC JOINT PROJECT 'DIVE SAFETY MONTH' PADI Canada wants to work with the AUC to start "Dive Safety Month" for next year in the spring – March or April. Goal: to promote divers to: tune-up their skills before the start of the local dive season, plus take Rescue Diver Courses, First Aid, O2 Admin, etc- PADI Canada Director: Randy Giles & I will be in touch with each other over the winter. **NEW BUSINESS:** T-Shirt

Design for Lake Cleanups: logo for the lake cleanups was designed by Thye Sing Wong & the Exec Director. **NEW BUSINESS:** UPDATE ON WEBSITE CHANGES: Looking at a new AUC website design & an Alberta Diver's Forum.

SEPT - Board Mtg Highlights: Present: Tom Davies, Dave Pohl, Gord Ross, Rhonda Lee Curran, Mike Hussey, Brian Nadwidny, Axel Kolleywyn, Tony Lamb, Jeff Grimson, Wayne Zimmerman, Absent: Gilles Benoiton **President Report:** Tom reported that the Gaming issue is now resolved with Dave & Cathie's assistance. **Executive Director Report:** Aug/Sept has been very busy: Attended a Non Profit Groups' at Shaw Conference Centre: Sat, Aug 23, Banff Lake Cleanup: Sept 6th, Gull & Sylvan Lake Cleanups: Sept 20, 21, Media Interviews: Before Banff: CFRN News, Edm Journal, Sherwood Park News, Craig & Canyon News Banff/Canmore, Sylvan Lake News, Sunny 94 Lacombe Radio, Red Deer Radio, Prior to & During Gull & Sylvan Lake

Cleanups: Rimbey/Bentley Newspaper, Access TV, CHCA TV News Red Deer, Red Deer Advocate, Sylvan Lake News, **NEW BUSINESS:** Telus World of Science's Jean-Michael Cousteau's visit to Shaw Conference Centre: Various clubs & stores were encouraged to sponsor or purchase tickets to the Dinner & Presentation. AUC Board decided that having funds for DIVESCAPES 2009 was the priority for the AUC. However, purchase 4 tickets for Board members to attend this event to represent the AUC. **NEXT MEETING:** FALL PLANNING MEETING At Percy Page Bldg: Oct 18/08

COMMENTS? QUESTIONS?

CONCERNS? IDEAS? PLEASE CONTACT AN AUC BOARD MEMBER OR AUC OFFICE! They are always ready & willing to talk membership. THIS IS YOUR COUNCIL!

Environmental Lake Clean-ups

Visit The Ocean Conservancy website at <http://www.oceanconservancy.org> and support annual International Coastal Cleanups by joining an event near you. This info is copyrighted & provided by "Ocean Conservancy": Underwater cleanups are a great way to help protect the marine environment. There are some special considerations when cleaning up under water, especially in fragile coral reef environments. Please follow these simple guidelines to avoid damage to fragile coral reefs or other marine ecosystems.

PLANNING THE DIVE

- Always dive with a buddy and be sure to check equipment and divers' signals beforehand.
- Make sure underwater conditions and weather are suitable for diving to ensure safety for divers and for underwater organisms.

GEARING UP

In addition to normal dive gear, divers will need:

- Mesh sacks.
- Gloves for protection from rubbish and sharp objects.
- Shears or scissors for cutting fishing line and tin cans.

DIVE PROTOCOL

- Work slowly and carefully.
- Dive in a head-down position to avoid making contact with the bottom.
- Adjust buoyancy throughout the dive as the garbage gets heavier.
- Make sure equipment is secured and the mesh sack is held so that nothing can trail or snag on corals.
- One diver should collect garbage with gloves on while another holds the mesh sack.
- Place glass, needles and hooks inside other garbage for safety.

- Never try to remove anything that cannot be easily lifted such as tires or car batteries.

CLEANUP TARGETS

- Plastics, especially plastic bags.
- Cloth items or tarps.
- Fishing line, netting, and broken lobster pots or fish traps.
- Batteries, bottles without marine growth, and tin cans.
- Cigarette butts and bottle caps

WHAT TO REMOVE—AND WHAT TO LEAVE

Do your best not to remove articles that have already been incorporated into the reef and are helping to support life.

Check it before you bag it ■ Make sure nothing is living in or on each item before removal.

- Do not remove bottles that are covered in growth.
- Cut open tin cans to make sure there is nothing inside.
- Hold cups or cans close to sandy parts of the sea bed and shake out sand or silt.

What to leave

- Anything which is "stuck" or encrusted with growth.
- Anything, no matter how ugly, which has become overgrown with marine life.
- Anything that may be dangerous.
- Heavy items—never use your buoyancy control device to lift heavy objects.
- Metal drums and containers which might contain hazardous materials.

Plastic fishing line

- Never try to pull fishing line free. Cut and remove it in sections to avoid damaging organisms growing around it.
- Use shears or scissors rather than a knife.
- Wind the line around an object or hand to control it.

RECORDING THE RESULTS

Document everything that is collected so that its origin can be identified and pollution problems tackled at the source. For more information and data recording sheets contact The Ocean Conservancy.

AFTER THE DIVE

Arrange for garbage to be collected or taken to an official site— do not leave it on the beach.



The Ocean Conservancy



Banff Lake Cleanup 08—Debris from Cliff Site at Lake Minnie



albertaunderwatercouncil.com

DIVE SAFETY—Provided by DAN

dan facts Practical dive safety tips for divers.

Ear Problems? No Problem

Pressure-related injuries to divers' ears and sinuses are the most common injuries reported to DAN each year. A little common sense will help you avoid such injuries.

Equalize

Equalize early; start on the surface with a gentle Valsalva maneuver. At the first sign of a problem, stop your descent until you have equalized. If you cannot equalize, ascend to a shallower depth and use a different equalization technique.

Use frequent gentle equalizations; they are more effective than forceful equalization.

Avoiding Ear Problems

- Before entering the water or before descending, equalize.
- Descend slowly and steadily, and clear often.
- If you experience difficulty, stop your descent and do not forcefully clear.

Stop your descent before you experience ear or sinus pain.

- Descend and equalize in a feet-first position.
- If you do experience pain or discomfort, ascend until you experience relief.
- Equalize early and often.

Can't equalize? Do you have a broken nose, a deviated septum, allergies or a history of ear infections? Don't dive until you have seen a doctor, and the problem is resolved. Use nasal sprays or oral medications to shrink swollen membranes and aid equalization.

Symptoms of damage to the ears and sinuses include:

- ⇒ Ringing in the ears or hearing loss
- ⇒ Nausea, vomiting, dizziness or vertigo
- ⇒ Blood from the nose or ears
- ⇒ Unresolved pain in ears or sinuses

If any of these symptoms occur during or after a dive, consult a physician before the next dive. Proper care and medication will aid your return to diving.

DAN Medical Information Line: +1-919-684-2948 ext. 222

www.DiversAlertNetwork.org

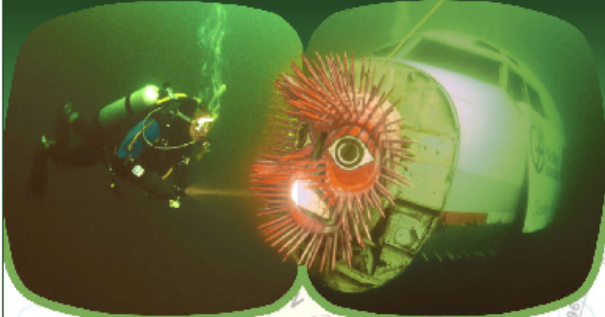
Divers Helping Divers™

DAN is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization




The Salish Sea

including Boeing 737, Porlier Pass & more



Features diving with
Author/Naturalist - Andy Lamb
& 49th Parallel Dive Charters

37 ft All-Weather Custom Dive Boat & Divers B & B



250-252-0758 250-246-9770

www.cedar-beach.com
www.divemaster.ca

vancouver island

INTERESTED IN TAKING YOUR ICE DIVING SPECIALTY—a very unique Alberta Diver experience? Visit your favorite local diving store or contact the follow AB Dive Centres to confirm their ice diver courses:

Dive Retailer:	Ice Course Dates:	Location:
Adventures in Scuba	Contact store for class dates: OW: Feb 21/22, Mar 7/8	Banff
AquaSport Scuba	Contact store for classroom dates: OW: Feb 21/22, Feb 28/Mar 1, Mar 7/8	Banff
The Dive Shop	Contact store for classroom dates: OW: Mar 14/15, Mar 21/22, & Mar 28/29	Banff
Northwest Scuba	Feb 20,21,22/09 & Mar 27-28,29	Twin Lakes
Ocean Sports	TBA—please contact store	Twin Lakes



NEWS FROM ALBERTA DIVE CLUBS:

Calgary:

Calgary Sub-Aquatic Club: has been busy working on the new Diver Marker Buoys installed each year at Lake Minnewanka to improve DIVER SAFETY. This has been a Joint project between Parks Canada, the Alberta Underwater Council, and Calgary Sub-Aquatic Club with the invaluable assistance above & underwater from active divers & instructors from the Calgary Area. **The CSAC & the AUC would like to especially thank Charlene Baker from Aqua Sport Scuba Ltd for the donation of providing the many, many air fills that were needed this year for this new project.**

Many thanks to the weekend dive warriors who assisted: Phillip Nelson, Tim Mathieson, Marlin Vergo, Brent Halling, Al Del Degán, Warren Robinson & Axel Kollewyn. Advanced divers interested in helping out in the SPRING 09 for installation of this new Diver Marker system please contact: Warren Robinson: 403-519-2002. **Your AUC Membership helps support this & other Alberta dive projects over the years and is most appreciated.**

Great White Shark Cage Dive Trip Planned:

Sept 28 – Oct 3/2009 on the Nautilus Explorer – hosted by Calgary Dive Instructor & former Nautilus staff: Leanne Vanderkooi, contact: 403-604-2240 or leelee0108@gmail.com

Scuba Divers Dinner Group: Scuba Divers Dinner Group: Monday, Jan 26th, Monday Feb 23rd, Monday Mar 23rd at the Emerald Garden Restaurant :

1006 - 16th Ave NW in Calgary, Social at 6:15pm and dinner at 7:00pm followed by presentation. Dinner with GST and tip is \$20.00 (drinks extra). Contact Tony Lamb at tonylamb@shaw.ca for dinner reservation or telephone Tony at (403) 283-3368 for more information. All divers or wannabe divers welcome! **And, invite a friend.** Guests and "wannabe" divers are always welcome! **RSVP** for seating and meal planning! Look forward to seeing you at dinner!

Edmonton

Pub Divers: Next meeting JAN 19th, 2009, 7:30 pm, at Boston Pizza Westmount, please RSVP to nadwidny@gmail.com
Recreational Dive Trip: Plans are in the works for a recreational dive trip to Newfoundland! We're looking at Saturday, July 4th up to Saturday, July 11/09 - if we have enough interested divers. Prices for the 7 day B&B accommodations & 5 day diving package from Ocean Quest Charters near St. John's, NFL starts at \$1349 pp. Most are arranging their own flights to NFL with Air Miles, etc. Max. #s on the boat: 12 divers, lodge: 12-14 max. This is an ideal recrea-

tional dive trip to Newfoundland for those who wish to dive the famous "Bell Island" wrecks among others before the sea & salt reclaim them & to enjoy the hospitality of the friendly folk who call "The Rock" home. Those interested in this trip can reply to nadwidny@gmail.com. Deposits will be required by early Feb to reserve your spot & final payment will be due by May 15th, 2009. Visit oceanquestcharterers.com for more detailed information & photos.

U of A Scuba Appreciation Club: SKI TRIP to Panorama, BC: January 16th-18th, 2009

All AUC members and guests are welcome! No need to be a student nor a scuba diver!
 Guests will be staying at the convenient, Gold level ON-HILL accommodations and transportation is provided by a chartered Greyhound bus through Backside Tours. [The bus is leaving from Edmonton but can pick people up along the way in Red Deer and Calgary as well!] Ski out your front door to the lift in the morning and relax in the 6000 square foot hot pool at the end of the day! Prices for skiers/snowboarders are \$295 per person and non-skiers are always welcome at \$245 per person. This includes 2 days of lift passes, accommodations, transportation and movies/prizes on the way there. Contact Danielle at danielle@uofascuba.com or Jamie at jamie@uofascuba.com for more information or to sign-up. Spots are limited so sign up soon! Download the [promo poster](#) in PDF. www.uofascuba.com

Wing Diver Club with the Twin Lakes

Training Facility (near Winfield): Many changes & improvements to the dock have occurred this past summer, many thanks to club members & divers Gord Ross & Mike Hussey. Of course, wear & tear is inevitable but please remember contact the AUC Office as soon as possible (1-888-307-8566, or 780-427-9125) and leave a message if you notice any damage while diving there so repairs can be made promptly as possible for safety reasons! Upcoming Recreational Dive Trip: 21 Participants are traveling to Dominican Republic for 1 or 2 weeks in the sun w/ diving. For more info contact: tedavies@telusplanet.net

Grande Prairie

GP SCUBA Club: To sign up for the club this year, please contact Lyndell: 780) 832-7209 or email: donwel@telus.net ALSO, notice that we have arranged for a dive trip to Barkley Sound in April of 2009. As

of the writing of this email/newsletter, there are 5 spots available. If you are interested be sure to contact us with a deposit as soon as possible so you will be sure of a place. This is an awesome place for a dive trip on the west coast, I can enthusiastically endorse it. If you would like to write up a little/big article for a midwinter newsletter – with/without photos- send it to me via email or snail mail and I'll get a midwinter newsletter together. Hope to see you this fall/winter. Take care, Lyndell Weldon, Secretary for GP SCUBA Club

Wainwright: Davco Aquamaniacs:

Pumpkin Dive results: We had a wonderful day – thanks to all divers and surface support from all across AB & Sask. We had 73 scuba divers and surface support people enjoying a beautiful day at the beach at Clear Lake. The diving included a Mystery Dive, a lake clean-up, and carving pumpkins underwater followed by the a Haunted Forest & 1st movie night of the year back at the shop. Prizes were donated by Alberta Underwater Council; Ft. McMurray's Wild and Wet Dive Club; Davco Diving, Northwest Scuba, Ocean Sports, Akona; Wainwright Liquor & Cold Beer; Sun Life Agent: Robert Carey; and Fred Paddock.

Independent Instructor Listings:

St. Albert: Perry Solloway, PADI www.flamingodivers.ca
 JAN 10/09: PSI Tank Inspection Course: \$325+ GST Contact: Perry @ 780-720-5720

Rocky Mountain House:
 Denise Boniface:
dbon@telusplanet.net

Technical Dive Instructors:

Calgary: Mossman Scuba:
 Greg Mossfeldt, mossmanscuba.com

Edmonton: Tech Zone Scuba:
 John McCuaig: 780-915-1681

Attn: Independent Instructors in Alberta: to be listed here, please contact the AUC Office:
1-888-307-8566 or 780-427-9125 or info@albertaunderwatercouncil.com

NEWS FROM ALBERTA DIVE RETAILERS & TRAVEL AGENCIES

Calgary:

Adventures in Scuba: Upcoming Dive trips include Honduras Feb 09 or April 09, Bonaire: Nov 7-14, 2009 and book now for Galapagos Aggressor Liveaboard: Oct 2011, 14 spots available ICE DIVING: February 9, 16, 21 & 22 or February 23 March 2, 7 & 8 Monday (x2) – classroom sessions, Saturday and Sunday – diving.

www.adventuresinscuba.com

Aqua Sport Scuba: Thanks for all your support in 2008 & sends happy holiday dreams to get wet in 2009 to all past & future customers. aquasportscuba.com

The Dive Shop: Life's too short—don't waste it—come get wet with us.

www.thediveshop.com

Edmonton:

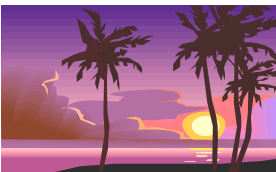
Aqua-Tek Scuba: December 20th, 2008 = Egg-Nog, Food, Movies! Come on out on Saturday for some Christmas Cheer at Aqua-Tek Scuba. All day is our meet and greet of our staff. At 6ish we will be holding the draw for prizes plus view a DVD on the Galapagos.

Aqua-Tek Scuba will be closed from Dec. 21st to Jan. 5/09. From all of us at Aqua-Tek Scuba have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! aquatekscuba.com

The Dive Outfitters: Winter Video nights schedule: Tues, Wed, Jan 14/09, Wed Feb 18th/09. Join us for some underwater video adventure! Each video night will showcase an underwater video and a dive destination video. Meet at the store at 6:00 p.m. and bring food if you like. Snacks and pop will be provided. Thanks, Angie, The Dive Outfitters, 17826 107 Avenue, Edmonton, AB, T5S 1J1, (780) 483-0044
Toll Free: 1-(888) 483-0049,
www.thediveoutfitters.ca

Northwest Scuba: December 2008 News: I would like to thank all our diving friends for a great year of diving. We have had a lot of fun from trips to support of the Underwater Council dives here in Alberta. Thanks for all the support. For those who did not hear - Northwest Scuba has a course director now. We are offering IDC's and Specialty instructor certifications. This is been a very exciting year for us. We had great showing for the Sylvan Lake clean up and are going to support it

next year. We look forward to the support from all our divers who come and help. We should all be proud of your hard work. This is helping save our lakes from the litter that people throw in. Every little bit we can do to help clean up our lakes and beaches is great. Northwest Scuba is a big supporter of Project Aware. Next year Northwest Scuba will be offering enriched air. Ken is also finishing his DSAT Tech instruct and gas blender certification. If you have not been on our web site, please stop by and take a look. It is new and exciting. Ice Diver Course: We are going to offer two weekends for ice diving in the New Year – February 21/22 and in March 28/29th, 2009. If you are interested give us a call. I would also like to introduce a new staff member – my nephew Ron Holliday. I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank You from Ken Holliday and Laura and all of our staff. www.northwestscuba.com



Ocean Sports:

News: Ocean Sports is now a National Geographic Dive Centre. Join Ocean Sports on a tropical dive getaway this winter. We have limited space on 2 exciting dive trips: *Dive Cozumel February 1-8, 2009*. \$699US + airfare p.p.d.o. This trip includes: 7 nights accommodation at Blu Caribe, 5 days of 2-tank boat dives, 5 buffet breakfasts, All taxes Led by Cozumel veterans and PADI Instructors Kari Taylor-Atkins and Matthew Atkins



The dive stores operating in Alberta provide us with a wide variety of services—from initial scuba training & gear and often even exotic travel opportunities. Please help support them by shopping in Alberta. Give your local store a visit in person, by telephone, by email or visit their website today via links found on page 14 of this newsletter!

We appreciate those Alberta dive related businesses that continue to support the Alberta Underwater Council with their dedicated financial & moral support, whether they are brand new stores or have been supportive of the AUC for more than thirty (30) years!

⇒ Please note that many Alberta dive stores/instructors in our smaller rural areas often aren't able to provide the AUC with financial support but do provide support in their local regions by completing local lake cleanups, visiting local schools & other volunteer activities and we gratefully acknowledge their contributions to diving in Alberta!

⇒ Divers—especially the 2008 Dive Alberta event winners—please thank these businesses for their corporate support by sending them an email today and be sure to acknowledge their sponsorship when you next stop by for a visit!

Ocean Sports—Con'td

Dive Roatan February 14 or 21, 2009

from \$1199US + airfare p.p.d.o. per week, Choose 1 or 2 weeks

This deluxe trip includes: 7/14 nights accommodation at Bay Islands Beach Resort, 5/10 days of 3-tank boat dives + one night diver per week, 3 deluxe meals per day, All taxes/airport transfers, Led by PADI Instructor Marty Burck, Contact: www.oceansports.ca (780) 432-1904, 1-800-561-3483

AROUND THE PROVINCE:

Awesome Adventures: Sail & Dive the Bahamas: Late Feb/early Mar 09 or Roatan: Mar 7-14/09

www.awesomeadventures.ca

Davco Diving: Dive travel to Puerto Aventuras, Mx: Yes, Carrie is still taking bookings for our trip at the end of Feb to the first week of March. Contact Carrie Waud for booking and more information: Advantage Baughan Travel, (780) 842-3358 phone, or 1-800-522-4108, carrie.waud@baughan.ca www.davco.cc

Mountain Tide Aquatics: West Coast Advanced Course/Trip Combos for 2009: Feb 6-10, Apr 10-14, May 15-19, July 17-21, Sept 25-29, Nov 13-17th. Exotic trip: Belize about the Nekton Pilot Liveaboard: Mar 20-30/09 www.mountaintideaquatics.com

Farrington Diving Services: Dive Sylvan Lake from the Gypsy Rose in 2009, www.farrdive.com



ALBERTA'S DIVE CENTRES

The dive stores operating in Alberta provide a wide variety of services – from initial snorkel or scuba training and gear – up to exotic travel opportunities! Help support them by shopping in Alberta. Please give your local store a visit via website, phone, email or in person today!

CALGARY:

ADVENTURES IN SCUBA

9950 MacLeod Trail South

Calgary, AB T2J 3K9

Ph: (403)299-7751

Fax: (403) 299-6628
adventuresinscuba.com

AQUA-SPORT SCUBA

3411-20 Street SW

Calgary, AB T2T 4Z6

Ph: (403) 686-6166
www.aquasportscuba.com

THE DIVE SHOP

4652 McLeod Trail SW

Calgary, AB T2G 5E8

Tel: (403) 243-4616

www.diveshopscuba.com

COLD LAKE

Air fill stations only:

Contact: Charles Ehrich

780-639-4564

OR: 4 Wing Scuba Club

c/o Larry Dublenko

780-840-8000, ext.7959



EDMONTON

AQUA-TEK SCUBA LTD.

16919 - 111 Avenue

Edmonton, AB T5M 2S4

Tel: (780) 484-2780

www.aquatekscuba.com

THE DIVE OUTFITTERS

17826 107 Avenue

Edmonton, AB T5S 1J1

Tel: (780) 483-0044

1-888-483-0049

thediveoutfitters.ca

NORTHWEST SCUBA

6815 -104 Street

Edmonton, AB T6H 2L5

Tel: (780) 438-1218

www.northwestscuba.com

OCEAN SPORTS

10133 - 82 Avenue

Edmonton, AB T6H 1Z5

Tel: (780) 432-1904

www.oceansports.ca

SUB SEA EXPERIENCE

6926 -104 Street

Edmonton, AB T6H 2L7

Tel: (780) 434-1433

Fax: (780) 436-5430

www.subseaexperience.com

FORT McMURRAY

OUTDOOR ESSENTIALS

#7 - 213 Timberline Drive

Fort McMurray, AB T9K

1S1 Tel: (780) 743-5121

GRANDE PRAIRIE

Norms Diving Service

9604 -101 Avenue

Grande Prairie, AB T8V 0X1

Tel: (780) 532-7478

Just for You Dive Services

Grande Prairie, AB T8V 3X5

Tel: (780)-832-7209

Email: lyndell@jfy.ca

LACOMBE/Blackfalds

FARRINGTON DIVE SERVICES - Roy Farrington

R.R. #2

Lacombe, AB T0C 1S0

Tel: (403) 885-4635

www.farrdive.com

LETHBRIDGE

ANDERSON AQUATICS

314 -11 Street South

Lethbridge, AB T1J 2N8

Tel: (403) 328-5041

www.awesomeadventures.ca

MEDICINE HAT

Jim Smith Scuba Sales & Instruction

24 Stevenson Street SE

Medicine Hat, AB T1B 3H1

Tel: (403) 527-4426

jim@ymca-medicinehat.org

RED DEER

Mountain Tide Aquatics

PH: 403-844-4110

Toll Free: 1-866-249-4721

moutaintideaquatics.com

ST PAUL

Atlantis Diving Ltd.

Rob & Shelly Tymofichuk

Box 1539

St. Paul, AB T0A 3A0

Tel: (780) 645-1861

Fax: (780) 645-1161

WAINWRIGHT

DAVCO DIVING

Wainwright, AB

Tel: (780) 842-5559

(Location: 1/8 East of WATC Gates)
www.davco.ca

Looking for Dive Travel with a group?

Check out the trips offered by Alberta Dive Centres or our Alberta Dive Travel Specialists Companies:

CARADONNA

Dive Adventures, Calgary

Ph:403-263-1699

1-800-803-1383

caradonna.com

DEEP DISCOVERIES

Dive Travel Specialists

1-8000-667-5362

deepdiscoveries.com

AUC thanks our outstanding Alberta Dive Businesses for their support!

***BRONZE**

**** SILVER**

***** GOLD**



Additional Information for Traveling Underwater Enthusiasts

DIVE TRAVEL:

The AUC provides this list of local Dive Travel Specialists, Dive Charters, Dive Centres & even U/W Hockey travel info to help you plan your next exotic international or west coast underwater trip:

CARADONNA DIVE TOURS

Calgary, AB
PH: 1-800-803-1383
www.caradonna.com

Deep Discoveries Dive Travel Specialists

(800) 667-5362 (Toll Free)
www.deepdiscoveries.com

Just for You Crew & Dive Services

1-888-258-7848
lyndell@jfy.ca

Underwater Hockey Tourist

www.pucku.org/tourist/

WEST COAST DIVE TOUR OPERATORS -

For more up-to-date listings of B.C. Dive Operator/Charters/Stores/Lodging see: www.bcdiveguide.com

Abyssal Dive Charters

Quathiaski Cove,
Quadra Island, BC
1-800-499-2297
www.abyssaldiver.com

Broken Island Adventures

Bamfield, B.C. Phone:
1-888-728-6200
brokenislandadventures.com

Cedar Beach Resort

Phone: 250-246-9770
Thetis Island, BC
cedar-beach.com

The Dive Outfitters

Nanaimo, Ph 250-756-1863
www.the.diveoutfitters.ca

Dive Victoria/Ogden Point Dive Centre

1-888-701-1177
www.divevictoria.com

God's Pocket

Port Hardy, BC
1-604-949-9221
www.godspocket.com

Great Ocean Adventures

Victoria, B.C.
1-800-414-2202
greatoceanadventures.com

Hornby Island Diving

Hornby Island, B.C.
1-250-335-2807
hornbyislanddiving.com

Mamro Adventures

Live-aboard-based in Nanaimo,
B.C. Ph: 250-756-8872
www.mamroadventures.com

Ocean Explorers

Nanaimo, dive charters
(250) 753-2055
1-800-233-4145
oceanexplorers diving.com

Pacific Pro Dive

Courtney/Comox
1-877-800-3483
www.scubashark.com

Porpoise Bay Charters

Egmont, B.C.
1-888-665-DIVE
www.porpoisebaycharters.com

Rendezvous Dive Adventures

Port Alberni, BC
1-877-777-9994
rendezvousdiving.com

Sidney Dive and Surf

1-866-655-0979
sidneydiveandsufr.com

Suncoast Diving

1-866-740-8006
Sechelt, B.C.
www.suncoastdiving.com

Sundown Diving

Nanaimo, B.C.
1-888-773-3483
www.sundowndiving.com

Sunshine Coast Tours

1-800-870-9055
SunshineCoastTours.ca

Tahtsa Dive Charters

Tahsis, B.C. 1-866-934-6365
tahtsadivecharters.com

DIVE MAGAZINES

Dive magazines offer the underwater enthusiast an opportunity to broaden his or her horizons. Whether it's a review of a new destination, technique or just brushing up on skills that may not be practiced during the long winter months, these magazines can keep you in contact with the sport during the times that you can't be underwater! A selection of popular titles are listed below:

Diver Magazine

www.divermag.com
Diver Magazine is a Canadian based international publication offering regional diving information, travel, diving medicine, naturalist and instruction articles.

Dive Training

www.dtmag.com

Ocean Realm

www.oceanrealmjournal.com

Rodale's Scuba Diving

www.scubadiving.com

Sport Diver

www.sportdiver.com
The official magazine of the Padi Diving Society

Undercurrent

www.undercurrent.org

X-Ray Magazine

www.x-ray-mag.com
bi-monthly pdf format over the internet

HINT: Before embarking on any dive trip, remember to see your local favorite dive centre for a schedule of their "Scuba Refreshers" or "Scuba Skills Updates" to help you check out both your gear and your current diving skills. Get out & get wet—before your dive holiday!

HINT: To meet new dive buddies, see your favorite local dive centre for a listing of their upcoming trips, charters & training schedules!

⇒ **A good diver is always learning**

Please Note::

Alberta Underwater Council offers this as information for divers only and is in no way responsible for the safety, services, practices, etc., offered by these businesses.

DIVE TRAVEL INSURANCE

Divers—don't leave home without it!

DAN (Divers Alert Network)

helps support a non-profit organization specializing in diving related treatments, issues, research, etc.

diversalertnetwork.org

DIVE SAFE INSURANCE

Canadian based 1-800-665-5252 (mention you are an AUC member! & \$5 is then donated to the AUC) diversafeinsurance.com

ADDITIONAL LINKS of Canadian Underwater Councils:

Ontario Underwater Council:
www.underwatercouncil.com

Manitoba Underwater Council:
www.manunderwater.com

Underwater Council of BC
www.underwatercouncilbc.com

Nova Scotia Underwater Council
www.chebucto.ns.ca/Recreation/NSUC

Happy Diving,
Stay Safe!

Info is current as of Dec 08 but is subject to change without notice!

Please notify the AUC Office of any corrections, additions, comments, etc.



ALBERTA UNDERWATER COUNCIL

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AUC's ELECTED OFFICERS & BOARD 2007/8

AUC OFFICE

11759 Groat Road
Edmonton, AB T5M 3K6

Phone: 780-427-9125, Toll Free Ph: 1-888-307-8566

Fax: 780-427-8139

E-mail: info@albertaunderwatercouncil.com

The AUC Directors would be happy to answer any questions that you may have regarding the Council. Please feel free to call the Executive members, a Director near you or the Executive Director to help answer your questions or concerns. We hope that your membership in the council is rewarding!

KEEP IN TOUCH ON THE WEB, see us at:
www.albertaunderwatercouncil.com
Visit often and be sure to "REFRESH" often!

NEED A DIVE BUDDY?

Register today on the AUC WEBSITE!

ALSO CHECK OUT WEBSITE FOR YOUR NEAREST SCUBA DIVE CLUB and/or DIVE CENTRE!

EDMONTON BINGOS: At Flamingo Bingo Hall/Millwoods Town Centre:

To Volunteer Please Contact: Bingo Coordinator for Divers : Tom Davies at Home Ph: 780-462-1551 OR for UW Hockey Please contact: Hm Ph: 780-478-8447

CALGARY'S SCUBA DIVERS

DINNER CLUB MEETING:S

DATES: 3rd Mondays, LOCATION: Emerald Garden Restaurant, at the corner of 9 Street & 16 Ave, NW, at 6:15 pm, dinner: 6:45, followed by Film Show with video/dvd presentation of dive resorts, etc.. COSTS: Dinner: \$16.50 (inc. gst) Beer or Wine: extra \$3.50 ea, Usual Attendance: 30-50,

All are Welcome—Especially Warm Water Divers!

President: Tom Davies, Hm: 780-462-1551

Vice President: Gord Ross, Hm: 780-406-3678

Treasurer: Dave Pohl, Hm: 780-436-9656

Executive Director: Cathie McCuaig, AUC OFFICE: PH: 780-427-9125, Fax: 427-8139, Toll Free Ph: 1-888-307-8566, Hm:456-6427, 11759 Groat Rd., Edmonton, AB T5M 3K6

Directors at Large:

Gilles Benoit—Edmonton— 478-8447

Rhonda Lee Curran—Edmonton

Jeff Grimson—Edmonton: 780-489-5449

Mike Hussey—Winfield: 780-682-2223,

Axel Kolleywyn—Calgary:Hm: 403-285-2340

Tony Lamb—Calgary: Hm: 403-283-3368

Brian Nadwidny—Sherwood Park: Hm: 780-467-0972

Wayne Zimmerman—Winfield: 780-

MISSION STATEMENT:The Alberta Underwater Council represents and encourages responsible participation, in and an, awareness of underwater activities while seeking to preserve the aquatic environment.

Objectives:

- To effectively represent the needs and interests of the Alberta underwater community
- To be recognized as a leading source of information on responsible underwater activities
- To be recognized as a leader in the preservation of the aquatic environment
- To provide services which recognize and meet the diverse needs of Alberta underwater sport enthusiasts.

The ALBERTA UNDERWATER COUNCIL is pleased to acknowledge & have the support of the:



Enhancing Alberta's Communities

UNDERWATER ALBERTA NEWSLETTER:

The ALBERTA UNDERWATER COUNCIL publishes "Underwater Alberta" 3 times a year. Bulletins are published between Newsletters when needed. Articles, photos, ad copy must be received at the AUC office at these deadlines: at the latest.

Spring Newsletter: March 15, mailed by Apr 1

Summer Newsletter: May 15, mailed by June 1

Winter/Fall Newsletter: Nov 30, mailed Dec 15

Bulletins will be sent out as needed.

All articles & submissions will be subject to the approval of the editor. The views expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of the AUC. Reproduction in part or whole permitted only with written permission of the AUC.

Advertising Rates: Add GST to the following:

Bus Card: \$25 1/2 Page:\$50

1/4 Page: \$30+ Full Page: \$75

1/3 page: \$40+

AUC MEMBERS deduct 20% from above rates!

AUC Members can access free classified ads..