

Dive'n Times

SJ Scuba

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PADI Dive
Training Team &
Dive Travel Club

Summer 2001 Volume 16

2001 Class Schedule

June 2-3	Certification Weekend Branson
June 12th	Camp Quality Discover Scuba
June 22-23-24	YMCA Open Water Class 6-week
July 14-15	Certification Weekend (Advanced)
August 18-19	Rescue Diver Class (Smithville)
August 23rd	YMCA Free Discover Scuba
August 25-26	Fun Dive Weekend
August 30th	YMCA Open Water Class 6-week
October 13-14	Certification Weekend Branson

SJ Scuba's 2001 Schedule is now available at www.sjscuba.com

Private Scuba Classes Available

SJS does offer private and semiprivate classes. Your pool or ours. Contact SJS at 816-233-8344 or email ernie@sjscuba.com

What's it like to become a PADI Instructor!

By Cindy Burri

Greetings from the SJ Scuba IDC candidates, Cindy and Brian Burri! We were the first students from SJ Scuba to test the updated PADI Instructor Development course, and it went quite well. There were actually 6 IDC candidates from 3 dive centers participating in the IDC: Brian and Cindy Burri from SJ Scuba, Doug Brisban from Skin-n-Scuba (KC), and JP, Glynda, and Damon from Scuba Sports (Branson). This is a fun and challenging course, we highly recommend it to anyone who is ready to move up in the PADI family. It's like eating an elephant—take it one bite at a time!

The new IDC consists of 2 distinct parts, the Assistant Instructor (AI) course, which is 3 days and the Open Water Scuba Instructor (OWSI) portion, which is 4 days. The AI course introduces you to teaching techniques for skill and knowledge development, concentrating on duties and programs that AIs can conduct independently. The OWSI program introduces you to the entire PADI System and focuses on further developing your duties as a professional dive educator. The IE consists of knowledge development presentations, confined and open water presentations, skill circuit, and written exams similar to the Divemaster exams (*physics, physiology and theory—oh my!*)

Ernie Miller, John Stuart and Bob Saunders were our top-notch instructors who exercised lots of patience, provided helpful feedback and gave us a great deal of insight into what we can expect at the Instructor Exam. The IE is in Branson May 19 and 20. With lots of practice and a bit of luck, we will be PADI SJ Scuba instructors very soon.

**Looking for information on Air fares, Hotels,
Cruises, Car Rentals, Rail Transportation,
Currency Conversion Rate or Flight Tracking?**

Click on the links at www.travelsj.com

A Key Largo Adventure

This past winter semester Jennifer Stuart moved her college classroom to the Florida Keys. Jenni, a SJ Scuba Divemaster and the daughter of John and Debbie Stuart, spent the winter and spring working for the Reef Environmental Education Foundation (REEF) as an intern. REEF is the organization that teamed with PADI's Project AWARE to create the Fish Identification Specialty Course.

Jenni stayed very busy and actually worked four jobs while she was in the Keys. Four days a week she worked at REEF Headquarters in Key Largo processing fish surveys, membership packets, and helping to set up their computer network. She also made fish identification presentations and participated in several fish survey dive trips. One day each week she drove down to Marathon Key and volunteered at the Turtle Hospital. In the evenings she worked at the large Diver's Outlet store in Key Largo. On weekends she volunteered as a Divemaster with It's A Dive or worked additional hours at Diver's Outlet. She also managed to complete a research paper on sea turtles for her college internship credit.

Two highlights of her adventure were to meet the artists Wyland and Christian Lassen and rescuing a nurse shark. Wyland, who is famous for his large underwater murals on building walls was touching up a mural in Marathon and Lassen donated an original painted to REEF for a fund raising auction. As for the nurse shark, she was diving with It's A Dive and came across a nurse shark that was thrashing against the reef. She slowly approached the shark and observed a fish hook in its mouth and a long leader wrapped up on a coral head. She used her dive knife to carefully cut the shark loose. As it swam away she looked over her shoulder and noted that her dive buddy was dutifully watching her, from a very safe distance. Jenni noted that it was the first time she had ever used her dive knife, but reflected that nurse shark was very pleased that she carried one.

Jennifer will return to Truman State University in the fall where she will be a junior majoring in biology. Her future plans include graduate studies in marine biology at Florida State University.

Instructor Speciality Workshop

July 12-13-14-15

SJS's PADI Course Director Ernie Miller will be conducting Instructor Speciality Workshops July 12-13-14-15 at Table Rock Lake. Open to Assistance Instructors and higher, Instructors can become Speciality Instructors in Deep, Night, U/W Navigation, U/W Naturalist, U/W Photo and Video, Wreck, Dry Suit, DPV, Enriched Air, Boat, Multi-Level and Search & Recover. AI's can take the course for future credit. Call 816-233-8344 or email ernie@sjscuba.com

Dominica Thanksgiving 2001

"Only a few spots left"

Estimated cost \$1950.00 per diver. Non-Refundable Deposit of \$100.00 per person. Additional deposit of \$250.00 due January 1st, 2001 and June 1st 2001. Final Payment September 1st, 2001.

M/V Sun Dancer II Live-A-Board-Palau Thanksgiving 2002

Join SJS aboard the M/V Sun Dancer for a seven night voyage November 22nd to December 1st, 2002 in Palau. We depart Palau on Sunday from the government dock at Malakal Harbor, Koror. Passengers may board the Sun Dancer II any time after 4:00 PM on the day of departure. The boat usually leaves dock between 5:00 and 6:00 PM, though times may vary due to flight schedules. Palau has been described as one of the Seven Underwater Wonders of the World, with 700 species of coral and 1,500 species of fish identified. Palau provides some of the best virgin diving to be found in Micronesia and is ideally suited for the more adventurous diver. Aboard M/V Sun Dancer II, we will be diving the spectacular walls along the barrier reef, including such favorites as Blue Corner, Ngemelis Drop-Off and many other sensational dive sites yet to be charted. You can expect mostly wall and drift diving with visibility ranging from 60 feet to in excess of 150 feet, depending on existing conditions.

SJ Scuba has booked the entire boat for our annual Thanksgiving trip. Departing on Friday morning from KCI for Palau, we arrive late Saturday evening in Palau. Remember, we lose a day when crossing the international date line. We will stay over night as guests of the M/V Sun Dancer at the Palau Pacific Resort before departing for the M/V Sun Dancer II Sunday afternoon. After a full week of diving and fun, we will return late Sunday night or early Monday Morning to KCI.

Space is limited to 20 persons. A non-refundable deposit (Deposits may be transferred to another person) of \$250.00 per person is due upon sign up, with additional deposits of \$500.00 required January 1st, 2002 and May 1st, 2002. Final payment due August 15th, 2002. Estimated cost \$3,250.00 per person.

Bonaire June 8th-15th, 2002

SJ Scuba is headed back to Bonaire for 7 days of fun and diving at Captain Don's Habitat the week of June 8th-15th. This will be our fourth visit to the Habitat, known for their 24-hour diving freedom.

Bonaire provides some of the world's easiest diving, with one of the best reefs located at the Habitat. Simply walk out to the end of "Baby Dock" as it is sometimes called, make a Giant Stride entry, swim 30 ft and you are on one of the best reefs in Bonaire. No boat ride, no problem with sea sickness, no currents, just 150 ft plus visibility with lots of life and critters to visit and see.

The package includes RT air from KCI, 12 boat dives, optional breakfast daily, 24-hour unlimited shore diving and deluxe accommodations. Estimated cost \$1650.00. Non-Refundable Deposit of \$100.00. Additional Deposits November 1st & January 1st.

**Royal Ambassador Travel
501 S. 36th Street, Suite 102
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816-232-9040 or 800-235-7646**

DSAT's TecRec Program The perfect prescription for high adventure!

Searching for more excitement from your scuba outings? Stand by adventure hounds, in January DSAT (Diving Science and Technology, a PADI corporate affiliate) launched its TecRec Deep Diver course under the TecRec umbrella. DSAT's World Technical Diving Division represents technical diving expertise from the dive industry's leading professionals and links the same award-winning educational design team responsible for the world's most popular recreational scuba programs. PADI's Enriched Air and semiclosed-rebreather programs have paved the way for TecRec into the technical diving arena.

The TecRec Deep Diver course provides training for divers beyond the traditional recreational dive limits of 40 meters /130 feet and will include decompression diving. Technical diving offers added challenges and adventure for those divers seeking an extreme venue. The TecRec series, currently in development, will include additional technical courses affording the tec diving enthusiast a variety of technical diving environments. These courses are separate from the PADI Specialty courses and have distinct training and experience prerequisites for instructors and divers.

Anyone interested in the TecRec Deep Diver Program should contact MSDT Randy Clark by calling 816-452-8273. Randy's email is randyclark470@aol.com.

Adventure Diver & Advanced Open Water

July 14th & 15th

****NO CLASS ROOM *NO TEST* JUST DIVING ****

That's right, it's just diving, fun, adventure and experience at the lake. For the PADI Adventure Diver course students choose three elective dives from ***Search & Recovery, Night, PPB, U/W Naturalist, DPV and U/W Photo.*** Advanced Divers include two additional core dives, Deep and U/W Navigation. Course fee includes all equipment except a wet suit for the Deep Dive and a diver's knife or tool. Students must sign up as soon as possible, as you will have a book to read. Join SJS at Table Rock, gain experience and become an Adventure or Advanced Open Water Diver in one weekend. ***Advanced Diver Cost \$185.00 (5-dives).*** Adventure Diver only \$125.00 (3-dives)

Rescue Diver Course August 18th & 19th

Rescue Diver is the most serious fun you will ever have. SJS will be offering a Rescue Diver Course at Smithville Lake again this year for open Advanced and Jr. Advanced Divers. This weekend course includes classroom, books, and Scuba Equipment. The course is designed to simulate many of the problems divers can experience. By knowing how to recognize potential problems, divers prevent problems before they occur. This year's activities will include local area ambulance and fire departments as part of the program. ***Please sign up early by contacting SJ Scuba at 233-8344 or email ernie@sjscuba.com The Cost is \$195.00 and includes the PADI Medic First Aid certification. Dan O2 Provider \$25.00***

FUN DIVE WEEKEND

August 25th & 26th
Table Rock Lake

FUN * GAMES * PRIZES * FOOD * COOKOUT

Solo Diving or the Buddy System?

The Buddy System: The buddy system in use today for scuba diving came from a decades old water safety concept found in swimming and lifeguard training. It was adopted because it applied to diving and because it made good safety sense. Early support of buddy diving safety procedures was referenced by Jacques Cousteau and the crew of the Calypso in the book "The Silent World". The goals of training divers include developing the skills to take responsibility for themselves and to be self-reliant. The buddy system provides divers in training with a safety redundancy to this skill base that diving alone simply cannot provide. PADI has, and will continue to, train divers using the buddy system based on its proven benefit to diving, divers and diving safety.

Practicality & Convenience: The buddy system has provided tangible contributions to millions of dives. Buddies provide an extra set of eyes and hands for each other. Providing assistance in putting on equipment, adjusting straps, assisting with weights and tanks, entering the water, helping to load and unload gear are but a few practical arguments that support the buddy system.

Safety: The roots of the buddy system arise from diving and water safety. Early days of diver training heralded the buddy system as an important safety procedure because only through the buddy system could a diver reasonably expect to escape from entanglement, entrapment, out of air situations, disorientation, a head injury, chest pains, cramping and dozens more. Diver training and diving equipment have improved, yet these same values apply today. Like all safety-based systems, the buddy system is not perfect. However, the simple fact is that without a buddy in the water, the distressed diver has little or no chance of assistance.

The buddy system is the most basic form of scuba diving fail-safe. Buddies have helped each other in subtle and profound ways for decades. Often the smallest buddy intervention averts a string of error chains occurred and negative outcomes or tragedy. The safety record of scuba diving has improved dramatically over the past few decades, while the number of certified divers has increased. During this time, buddy system training techniques have been an integral component of this training. While there is no way to quantify the accidents that were prevented or did not happen because of one buddy looking after another, empirical outcomes support the relevancy and integrity of this training.

Enjoyment: Diving is a social activity, so the buddy system is more than a safety rule. Diving with someone you know and are comfortable with adds to the fun. Most divers actually enjoy companionship in and out of the water. It is fun to share exciting adventures and experiences with others. Fundamentally, the buddy system is about dive companionship, something that won't appeal to misanthropic personality types.

The SJ Scuba Dive Training Team does not support any form of solo diving, no matter what the level of training the diver may have. *Be a SAFE SJ Scuba Buddy Team Diver and not a SOB (same ocean buddy) Diver. Ernie Miller CD25403*

KC Frogman Club The KC Frogman Club, established in 1954, has a great web site located at www.kcfrogman.com. Log on and take it for a test dive.

Local DCS Chamber Ask a local diver where the closest chamber is and they might say Kansas City, but what about St. Joseph's chamber. That's correct. The closest chamber is located at Heartland East and staffed by SJ Scuba Dr. Karen Vaniver.

New links to the [KC Frogman Club](#) and The [Scuba Yellow Pages](#) has been added to our links page.

New PADI Seal Team!

PADI launches the PADI Seal Team, a new youth program with endless opportunities. Designed for divers eight years of age and older, the Seal Team program teaches kids the fundamentals of diving in a pool environment. As guides for Seal Team divers, a multicultural group of five animated characters take divers through the program and act as role models. Packed with challenges and training, PADI Seal Team divers build their confidence while making friends and sharing in the diving experience.

With five core "Aquamissions" and 10 specialty Aquamissions, kids not only learn good diving skills, but also sample exciting dive activities. The first five Aquamissions cover Confined Water Dive One skills from PADI's Open Water Diver program. Learning the basics, such as mask clearing and buoyancy control, gives Seal Team divers a solid foundation from which to build their skills. The next 10 Aquamissions give kids the chance to explore a variety of dives like underwater photo, navigation, wreck & night diving.

Upon completion of the first five Aquamissions, divers are recognized as PADI Seal Team Members. This is where they get their first Seal Team card and wall certificate. After completion of all 10 specialty Aquamissions, divers are recognized as Master Seal Team Members with a second Seal Team card and wall certificate.

Here's the best part, the PADI Seal Team program keeps kids diving until they turn 10 and can take the PADI Junior Scuba Diver or Junior Open Water Diver program. And, to make the transition simple, skills completed in the first five Aquamissions may count as credit toward one of these programs. The PADI Seal Team program creates enthusiastic young divers and gets kids excited about joining a winning team.

New Assistant Instructors

Several area Divemasters recently completed their Assistant Instructor Course—Brian & Cindy Burri, Doug Brisbin, JP Shahan, Damon Sailsbury and Glynda McClure with PADI Course Director Ernie Miller and Dr. Richard Craig while staying in Bonaire. Congratulations from the SJ Scuba Dive Training Team.

Branson's new PADI Dive Center

SJ Scuba and Scuba Sports, located in Branson, Missouri, has teamed up to provide our students the opportunity to complete their Open Water training any day of the week during summer months. If you can not make one of our certification weekends, SJ Scuba will arrange for an Instructor from Scuba Sports to complete the Open Water Certification dives. The cost is \$110.00, which includes BCD, Regulator, Tank, Weights & Wet Suit. Students must provide their own Mask, Fins and Snorkel. Email ernie@sjscuba.com for more information. Scuba Sports is located on Highway 248 approximately 1.5 miles west of US 65. From Springfield, exit on Highway 248 in north Branson and go west approximately 1.5 miles. Look for the Dive Flag on the right side of 248 Hwy. Be sure to stop in and stay high to Jeff and Louis the next time you are visiting the Branson area. Weekend wet suit rental is available to SJ Scuba's divers and students for \$25. Please call ahead & reserve your suit. **417-337-7727**

<p>Skin N Scuba 9300 E. 35th Street Independence, MO 64052 816-358-0855 PADI 5-Star IDC Ctr S-M-T-W-T-F-S</p>	<p>St. Joseph Scuba 2407 Messanie St. Joseph, MO 64501 816-233-3080 6-9 PM Tue & Thurs 10-2 Saturday Mike Marriott Owner</p>	<p>Scuba Adventures 5100 N.E. Chouteau Traffic Way Kansas City, MO 64119 816-455-1492 PADI 5-Star IDC Ctr M-T-W-T-F-S</p>	<p>Scuba Sports 1196 Hwy 248 Branson, MO 65616 417-337-7727 PADI Dive Ctr <i>Louis Chapman Owner</i></p>
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