

Kwajalein Scuba Club, July 2010

The First Stage

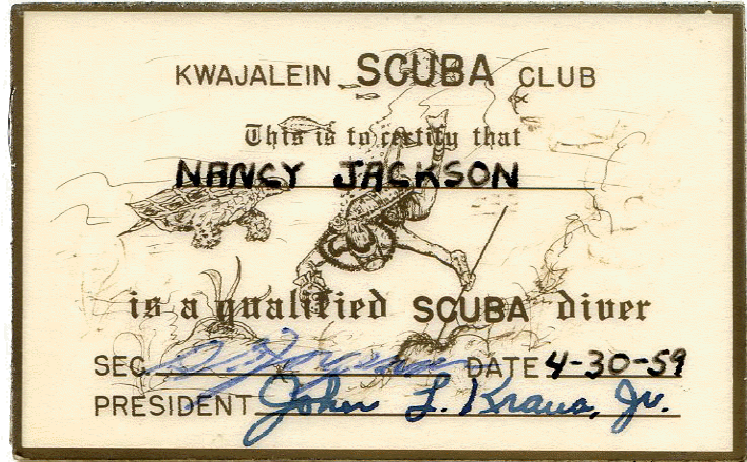
July Meeting, July 14th 7

PM, CRC Rm 1,

Constitutional Change

Meeting

This is the “bring your dive computer” meeting. Earn an extra point just by bringing your dive computer. Compare computers with your friends. Ask DSC members questions about your dive computer or dive computers in general. Island vendors will have nitrox compatible dive computers on display.



The new constitution presented to the club at the June meeting will be voted on by the membership. Before the meeting, please go to www.kwajaleinclub.com, click forms and review the purposed changes to the club constitution.

A new tank house combination will be announced at this meeting.

New Appointed KSC Officers

New KSC Appointed officers were selected and confirmed in June. Ivey Springer is continuing as the Chief Dive Supervisor. In that role, she leads the Dive Supervisor Council in conducting orientation dives and keeping club water activities safe. Lisa Shier is the new Safety and Training Officer. Her job is to organize safety training activities and investigate all dive incidents. Sharon Skalko will be the new Dive Locker Officer. She will provide all of us with KSC shirts, hats, and more.

Meet your appointed officers!

Ivy Springer – Chief Dive Supervisor

Ivy came to Kwajalein from Colorado 16 years ago. She has been a certified scuba diver since January 1998 and has been a dive master since April 1999. She has logged nearly 3,000 dives in 7 different countries and across The Marshall Islands including Bikini, Namu, and Majuro.

Ivy became a Divemaster because she wanted to do orientation dives - especially for visitors - to show them our glorious underwater treasures here at Kwajalein. Her goal as Chief Dive Supervisor is to serve the club, provide leadership of the Dive Supervisory Council, set a good example for conducting safe orientation dives and promote safe, conservative dive practices.

Her main hobby is diving, diving, diving... and walking to keep fit... for diving.

Lisa Shier – Safety and Training Officer

Lisa Shier learned to dive in Southern California in 1999 and became a Kwajalein diver in 2000. She earned a divemaster rating in 2002. Lisa spent 2003 living and diving in Southern California and dove at most of the Channel Islands. She earned her instructor rating in 2003 after completing the Instructor Examination at PADI world headquarters. Lisa returned to Kwajalein in 2004 and took up underwater photography. She has produced 7 different underwater slideshows.

Lisa has traveled extensively in Micronesia, diving at Kosrae, Pohnpei, Chuuk, Yap, and Palau. Palau is her favorite. Lisa has been a Nitrox Instructor since 2005, and is the head of the nitrox committee. When not diving, Lisa enjoys sewing, embroidery, nature photography, baking, and playing the clarinet. Lisa's goals for this year are to get a nitrox system working on Kwajalein and to ensure safe diving for everyone.

Sharon Skalko – Dive Locker Officer

Sharon is a California native and got a NAUI certification in 1972 from a PE class offered at San Jose State College. Most of her early years of diving included dives in Monterey Bay, CA and later in southern California, particularly Catalina Island, where her first passion, sailing, developed. She bought her first sailboat at age 24 and has more than 50,000 miles of blue water, (open ocean) sailing experience. She became 'cook' aboard California's State 'Tall ship' for one year, in 1982, sailing, cooking and diving from this amazing 110- foot vessel.

Sharon works as one of two radiology technologists here at the Hospital on Kwaj. She is certified to do X-Rays, Mammograms and Ultrasound exams.

Her hobbies include...Sailing, diving, sailing, snorkeling, sailing, jewelry making, pottery and 'oh-yes, sailing. Her goals for the dive-locker would be to get some new and interesting T-shirts available this year, acquire some other new and interesting items to sell and generally get the island population aware that we have some great products for sale, that really help support the KSC financially.

Introducing Nitrox

Enriched air or nitrox is a blend of nitrogen and oxygen gas that contains more oxygen than regular air. Nitrox is increasingly popular as a breathing gas for divers worldwide. Advantages of nitrox include longer bottom times before the no decompression limit and less build up of nitrogen in the diver's body. Most divers report feeling less tired after diving with nitrox than after diving with air.

Most dive gear can be used without modification for either air or nitrox within recreational limits (no more than 40% oxygen). Manufacturer recommendations should be consulted for regulators, but most regulators sold in the past 10 – 15 years are fully nitrox compatible. For most effective use of nitrox, dive computers need to have a nitrox mode, which is also nearly universal on modern dive computers. Only scuba tanks need to be dedicated to nitrox use.

Nitrox gas mixtures all have a maximum depth for safe use, which may be significantly shallower than 130 ft. Divers using nitrox must also personally determine the oxygen content of each tank used. Special safety considerations and dive preparation procedures for nitrox are taught in the Enriched Air Diver course. Only divers completing the Enriched Air Diver course may use nitrox.

COL Clarke has approved nitrox for use at Kwajalein Atoll. KSC is actively pursuing obtaining equipment to produce nitrox on Kwajalein.

KSC Photo Contest Rules

Rules:

- Each month has a subject:
 - July – Open Class (any subject)
 - August – people; at least one person must be in the photo
 - September – big things that swim
 - October – pumpkin carving and things that are orange
 - November – small fish
 - December – Santa and things that are red
- Photos must be submitted 5 days before the monthly meeting
- No one may enter more than 3 photos in any month
- Judges cannot win; first and second place winners become judges the following month
- Judges will select the three best photos each month for final selection by the club membership
- All decisions by the photo contest manager, Carrie West, are final
- Winning photos will be displayed on the KSC website
- KSC has all rights to any photo entered into the contest

July Safety Message

Always ascend slowly from 15 feet to the surface. Most ascent rate violations happen in the final ascent after the safety stop – the worst possible time and place!

From the Tank House

Always return tanks within 24 hours, full or empty. Tanks must have at least 500 PSI left.

Never leave home without Divers Alert Network (DAN) Insurance.

Members of Divers Alert Network® receive TravelAssist advantages such as emergency evacuation and repatriation, prescription expenses, medical monitoring, worldwide medical information and assistance, return of dependent children, emergency cash advances and much more.

For more information, go to <http://www.diversalertnetwork.org/>

