

Kwajalein Scuba Club, December 2011

--The First Stage--

December monthly meeting-

The next meeting will be Wednesday, December 14th, at 7pm at the Pacific Club.

Safety Message-

Be a safe diver- never push your computer limits!



KSC would like to extend a special thanks to the Chapel for continuing to fund night diving opportunities for the community!

KSC President Bill Williamson-

Bill recently flew home on emergency leave due to a death in his family, and will be gone an undetermined length of time. Let's all keep Bill and his family in our thoughts and prayers.

Scuba Santa-

Emon Beach. Wednesday, December 21st! Santa is expected to come out of the water around 1900 hrs. Ivy Springer will be Divemaster for the event. Amy LaCost's father, Lee LaCost from Lincoln, Nebraska, will be Scuba Santa (for the 8th time!). High School students will be the underwater elves. We need volunteers to assist Ivy with the beach support crew. We need two divers willing to be the "Tree Team", carrying the live tree to shallow water, popping the light sticks, then dragging the tree up to the dive shack.

We really need volunteers and donated lights for the decorating party on 15 December, to decorate the Emon Dive Shack with Christmas lights.

From John Pennington, KSC Environmental Officer-

As divers, we know that the ocean is a fascinating and wonderful place. As ocean protectors, we also know that the ocean is in a state of crisis and decline. The question is- how can we help restore ocean health and abundance in the face of so many daunting challenges? There is no quick fix, but with your help and commitment we can make a big difference. PADI (the Professional Association of Diving Instructors) have

also agreed to get on board with us this holiday season by offering to directly match your commitment 1 to 1.

So for every donation you give, PADI will double it dollar-for-dollar, up to a total of \$20,000 by December 31. <http://www.projectaware.org/donate> That could mean a full \$40,000 toward protecting our ocean planet and ensuring the most vulnerable shark species get the protection they desperately need.

But we need your help to secure the full PADI match and make your ocean gift go twice as far.

This is an amazing chance for your generosity to do double the good and secure strong initiatives for marine debris issues and shark protection measures in 2012 and beyond. Thank you in advance for all that you do to protect the ocean planet.

Important reminder...

Do not remove any items from any wreck at Kwajalein Atoll. The looting or removing of any items from any wreck is against both U.S. law and RMI law, and it is a felony offense. Violators are subject to disciplinary action. Diving wrecks is a privilege for KSC members, so let's protect our Kwajalein history and help ensure that we do not lose that privilege.

Important reminders on the use of Nitrox...

1. ALL nitrox tanks must be logged out in the orange binder. A single log entry for two or three or more tanks under one name is NOT proper procedure.
2. ONLY properly certified, oriented and paid-up members are permitted to sign out and/or use Nitrox. This rule pertains to both KSC tanks, and privately-owned tanks filled by KSC.

Giving nitrox tanks to people who are not KSC enriched air members or using tanks when not an enriched air member is a 12-month suspension from all scuba diving at Kwajalein Atoll. Failure to personally analyze and log out nitrox tanks, or giving tanks to someone who has not personally analyzed and logged them out is a 3-month suspension from all scuba diving at Kwajalein Atoll.

Orientation Dives-

Do you have a visitor coming that wants to dive at Kwajalein? An orientation dive is REQUIRED. The Kwajalein Scuba Club website lists the club's active Divemasters, and any of them can give orientation dives. Most of the club divemasters are available after work and on the weekends. Also, Kim Morris is available during the day by prior arrangement. Note: only professional and commercial divers who are diving in a work

capacity are not required to do orientation dives. However, if they are diving recreationally, they are still required to do an orientation dive. Even Dan Orr, President of Divers Alert Network, had to do an orientation dive during his visit to Kwajalein!



Are you on Facebook? If so, so is KSC! We use it to post meeting and event announcements. By using Facebook, you can help us judge how many are attending events. Do a search for Kwajalein Scuba Club.

Rental Gear-

Jim Bishop, John Pennington, and Bill Williamson have rental gear available if needed. Contact any of them for details and pricing. Bill's rental gear is available at Bill's Dive Shop, located at the AAFES store.

December Specials from our local scuba gear vendors...

~From Jim Bishop's SCUBAPRO and ATOMIC AQUATICS Gear~

Just serviced ATOMIC AQUATICS T2 Titanium Regulator - \$600 OBO. (Retails for \$1,550 stateside.)

New SCUBAPRO Nighthawk BCDs with AIR 2 configuration - \$375. (Retails for \$738 stateside.) Several sizes.

Call 5-0894 or email jimbishop1@gmail.com

~ From Pennington Scuba~

10% off the new AquaLung Axiom BCD and super bright flashlights premiered at DEMA. Limited quantities arriving so confirm orders now to lock in your Christmas presents.

Call 5-3290 or email penningtonscuba@gmail.com.

New KSC Treasurer is needed...

We are sad to report that Betina Dodd, our dedicated club treasurer, is departing in May. Therefore, we need a new Treasurer.

We would like someone to volunteer and begin training after the holidays, and be ready to take over the job in February. That way, Betina will be available as an assistant and answer questions until her departure in May.

This will be a temporary position, lasting until the elections in May. If you are interested in helping out in this capacity, please contact Betina and/or Bill Williamson.

Upcoming Scuba Classes... (all are PADI unless otherwise noted)

Classes by Lisa Shier-

Enriched Air Diver (Nitrox)- every Friday night.

Classes by Bill Williamson-

Divemaster class coming in January. Contact Bill for more information.

Kosrae offering special deals just for Kwaj Divers!!

Special #1- Bring a group of six divers and pay for five! Tuesday to Friday- 3 nights twin-share accommodation, 3 days of 2-tank boat dives, includes airport transfers, breakfast and lunch each day, plus an island tour! Dive Tuesday after the flight, Wednesday and Thursday. Then Friday morning take a 3-hour guided hike to the 1,000 year-old Menke Ruins in the heart of the island, back for lunch, and leave for the airport at 1:30pm. All of this for only \$549 per person. Note: this offer is valid for the month of March 2012 only!

Special #2- If you can't get six divers together, then stay six nights and you will get breakfast each day, a guided tour to the 1,000 year-old Menke Ruins, plus a t-shirt for free. Note: this offer is valid from January 2012 to April 2012 only!

To receive these offers, reservations must be made directly with Kosrae Nautilus Resort. Contact them at doug@kosraenautilus.com. You may also check out their websites at www.kosraediving.com or www.kosraenuatilus.com.

For more information on Kosrae and the diving, feel free to contact Ivy Springer on the global email.

Don't forget- Wednesday, December 14th, 7pm at the Pacific Club for the monthly meeting.

~~~ Ascend slowly from every dive! ~~~