



Kwajalein Scuba Club

The *First Stage* Newsletter – November 2012



November Monthly Meeting

We apologize for the change of schedule from the 14th but a large number of KSC members directly support the mission so the Executive Council agreed it would be best to move the meeting one week. The New meeting is **November 21st**. The meet/greet social begins at **6:30PM** with snacks/drinks and access to the Dive Locker. **Meeting to begin at 7:00PM.**



Underwater Pumpkin Carving Update

A long lost Kwajalein Scuba Club tradition returned this year and fun was had by over 30 people who came out for the fun on October 29th. Each of the dive buddy teams who participated was provided a free pumpkin and permanent markers to plan their design. A safety briefing, contest rules review, and demonstration of pumpkin buoyancy provided to all participants. Teams worked on their templates before gearing up and entering the water since the pumpkin had to be submerged for all cutting. Teams were encouraged to allow each buddy to carve one side of the pumpkin so one pumpkin could be entered in multiple categories. There were several snorkelers who watched from above and other divers who took pictures or just watched while the 16 cutters sliced and diced their gourds into some interesting artwork.

Pumpkin carving prizes included KSC gift certificates for a T-shirt or Beach towel and several other prizes donated from AquaLung for this fun event. Award categories included:

Au Natural = only knife and spoon work with no added hats, beads, etc.

Scariest = duh

Whimsical = yep, you know this one, too

Props = Best one with added props like dry ice, plastic ears, etc...

Crowd Favorite = Best design deemed by crowd applause

Best costume = Divers who wore a Halloween costume with their gear





Notice: If you took any pictures of this event on land or underwater, please send them to John Pennington or upload them to the KSC facebook page so they can be shared with others. Thanks!

KSC Upcoming Events – Save these dates on your calendar!

November 19th – **Underwater Turkey Hunt** – Emon Beach dive shack 2-4 PM

December 16th – **Scuba Santa** arrives at Emon Beach

December 17th – **KSC Christmas Party & Diver's Alert Network (DAN) fundraiser event**

December 21st **Mayan Apocalypse Night Dive** at Ski Wreck

Combination change!!!

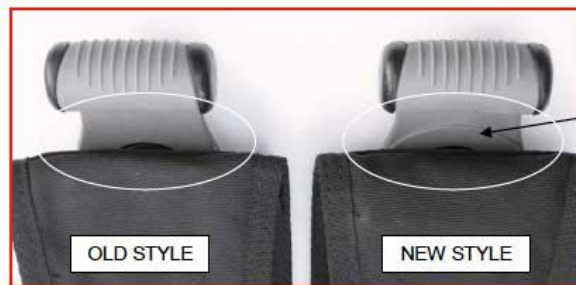
Now that most TDY folks have left, the tank house combination is changing in November so ensure your email address is correct.

Scuba Community Notices:

Aqua Lung is conducting a voluntary recall of SureLock™II weight pocket handles.

Visit this link for more details: www.aqualung.com/us/content/view/629

SureLock™II is the mechanical weight release system found on most Aqua Lung buoyancy compensators (BCs) beginning in 2009. Aqua Lung is concerned about the rubber handle pulling off of the plastic SureLock™II weight pocket assembly. If this were to occur during a dive, the weight pocket would be left engaged inside the BC. There are no known occurrences of this happening underwater, and there have not been any reported injuries, but Aqua Lung believes that a recall is the safe and prudent thing to do. Aqua Lung has made a revision to the handle assembly that strengthens it. A revised handle is easily recognized by a thickened band of rubber at the base of the handle. If you have an old style pocket, please let John Pennington know to provide a count for Kwajalein replacements. Two packages of replacement handles has already arrived and John can swap the pocket in 30-seconds per side.



New revision identified by a band of thicker material on the underside of the handle

Atomic Aquatics Cobolt Dive Computer Recall

Visit this link for details: <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml12/12286.html>

If you own a Cobalt with a serial number in the affected Serial Lots, Jim Bishop has offered to work with you and an authorized ATOMIC AQUATICS Retailer in Honolulu to perform the inspection. The recall affects all Cobalts with serial numbers that start with any of the following numbers:

10 Series: 2210 2910 4010 4710 5010

11 Series: 1111 1711 2611 2811 3211 3311 3411 3511 3611 3711 3811 3911 4011 4111 4211 4511 4611 5211

12 Series: 0812 1112 1212 1312 1412 1612

KSC First Stage Improvements?

We really are looking for input from KSC members to improve the newsletter. Please let us know if you have an interesting event or anecdote to share, a survey you would like to see, or other input to the First Stage. Please send your input to penningtonscuba@gmail.com for consideration.

Gobble Bubbles Gobble

Come join the fun for Kwajalein Scuba Club's
Underwater Turkey Hunt



Monday, November 19th 2-4 pm at Emon Beach dive shack.

This KSC traditional event is a fun event that is great for divers and snorkelers of all ages and cert levels.

Lots of good prizes and yummy refreshments.

To have an AIR tank delivered, or other questions contact:
John Pennington at penningtonscuba@gmail.com or call 5-3290
Sorry but Nitrox divers must bring your own EANx tank.