



“DIVE LOG”

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITED DIVERS
OF CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS

September 2010

Volume IX Issue 9

Page 1

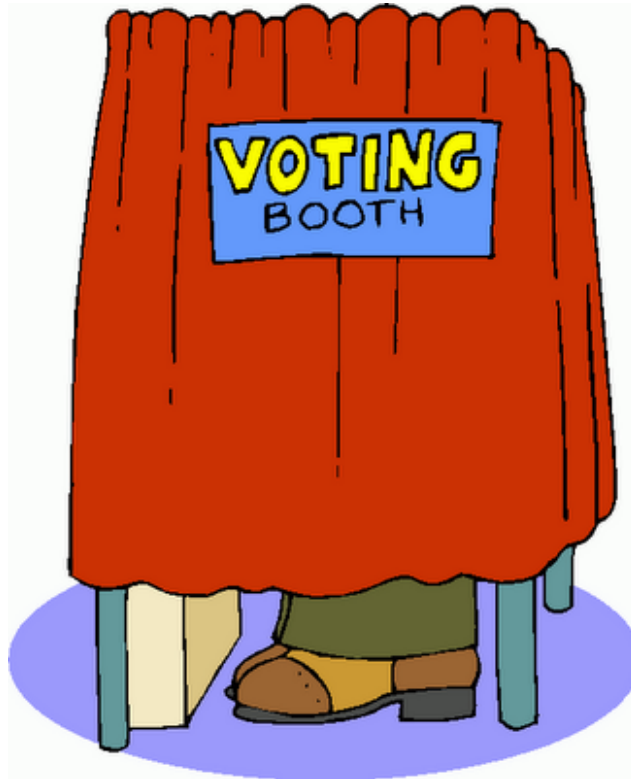
INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Nominations Page 1
Presidents Message Page 2
Banquet Information Page 3
Take a Look Pages 3
My Day Off Page 4
Recipe Page 5
U-853 Page 5
Calendar & Birthdays Page 6
Rockport Tide Table Page 7
Upcoming Activites Page 7

“September is Nominations”

Nominations are upon us. Frankly, the future of the club depends on the support of us all. If you have not been on the board yet, what are you waiting for? This is your chance to steer the club. Our membership is a diverse group of very capable and qualified people. Why not share some of your talents and help keep the club from floundering.

What does it take being a board member? It is not as difficult as you may



think. I think we all know there is a board meeting and a general meeting from January to November. From there things almost run themselves. There are the annual activities like Chicks Day and Lobster Fest. Most members are diving on their own so the need for scheduled dives is low. This being said, can it be that difficult? If it appears that you will be left on your own that is far from the case. The 2010 board is more than happy to lend a hand. All you have to do is ask.

**Congratulations
50/50 winner!!**

“Ken Mostello”



Let’s face it, attendance at the September meeting is usually low. Please don’t avoid the September meeting for fear of being nominated for a position. Why turn nominations and the election into dreaded events? Let’s make them fun, let’s make it a true election! Think of how much fun it would be to have a contest for at least a couple positions!

Please come to the next meeting! At minimum nominate yourself for a position. Let’s keep the club going! This is your club, this is our club. We have a great core of active members. Let’s not disappoint them.

This message is approved by the 2010 board.

President's Message

It is that time of year again. Summer is winding down, school has begun but the diving is just as good! We had our first close call with Earl. Close but it only mucked it up for one weekend. In my opinion diving gets even better in the fall. We have warm comfortable days which makes getting dressed much easier. The vis gets better as the water begins to cool. There are fewer people to contend with on Cape Ann. A couple of my all time favorite dives have been in November and January. The club has 2 big events coming up. We have nominations and the election of next year's board as well as the banquet. I ask all members to give consideration to running for a position on the board. Let's make this election fun by having a true election. Please read the article about nominations and the election in this newsletter. The banquet will be here before we know it too. This will be the last meeting before the banquet. Please be sure to get your tickets at the next meeting or at Andy's Sport Shop. There is a limited number so don't wait until the last minute. This is a great opportunity to come out and support the club, meet people from other clubs and take in an incredible speaker! Lets keep diving. See you all at the next meeting.

Safe Diving,

Mark

Men do less than they ought, unless they do all they can.

Thomas Carlyle

United Divers of Central Mass Presents: "An Evening with Richie Kohler"



October 8, 2010 beginning at 6:00PM

**Devens Common Center,
Andrews Parkway, Devens MA**

Tickets: \$35.00

Dinner, Music & Presentation

“UDCM Banquet 2010”

The banquet is October 8, 2010 at the Devens Common Center beginning at 6:00PM. This meeting is the last meeting before the banquet. Please support this event and buy your tickets at the next meeting! Tickets are \$35.00 per person. There will be a cocktail hour with music, dinner followed with a stellar presentation! This should be an awesome evening!

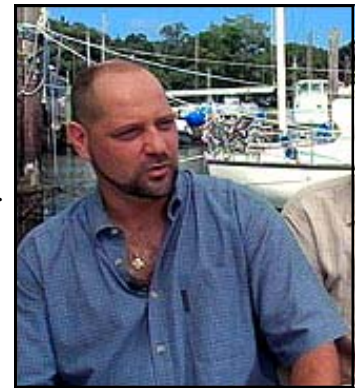


**** DON'T MISS OUT ****

“Meet Our Guest Speaker”

Richie Kohler’s passion for technical scuba diving and maritime history has led him to explore some of the most challenging and dangerous shipwrecks in the world, including the **Andrea Doria** and **HMHS Britannic**. Searching for lost ships has led him to locate and help identify numerous lost vessels, including the **U-215** a German mine laying submarine on the Georges Banks off Nova Scotia, **USS Murphy** a WWII destroyer, crushed and forgotten in the New York approaches, and the **SS Peconic** an 1800’s hurricane victim off the Georgia coast. But it would be the identification of a mystery WWII German U-Boat, the **U-869** that would catapult his diving career into the world of television and documentary film making. Detailed in the NY Times best seller, *Shadow Divers* by Robert Kurson, this exciting story is slated to be a major motion picture by **20th Century Fox**. Kohler, along with long time dive buddy John Chatterton, co-hosted the long running History Channel series, **Deep Sea Detectives**, and has worked on U/W film projects

for Paramount Pictures, CBS, PBS, National Geographic and the Discovery Channel. In 2009 Kohler returned to **HMHS Britannic** with a National Geographic film team to penetrate further inside the wreck in search of answers. It was on this expedition that tragedy struck when expedition leader Carl Spencer became the first diver to die while exploring the wreck. Kohler is currently conducting technical dive training, rebreather instruction, and leading shipwreck expeditions worldwide, more often than not his head underwater, searching for the next great dive.



Taking time to look around!

Up here in New England, I know if I’m on a lobster hunt or diving a wreck, I tend to be focused on that alone. But take time to look around. The last weekend in October, I was diving at Old Garden with Karen and Jose when Jose came up to us with something on his fingertip. Looking closer we could see he had found an inch and a half long pipe fish. About 10 minutes later I came upon another one. Even up here if you take the time to look, you might just surprise yourself with what you can see!

Kevin

**** NOTICE ****

Captain Fran Marcoux and his son Matt are moving the Daybreaker to Rhode Island September 21 to October 6 for some incredible wreck diving. This may be a great chance to dive the U –853 off Block Island. If you have not dove the Rhode Island wrecks this is an opportunity not to miss. I know there are openings and they are going quick.

“My Day Off”

by Mark Bowers

I recently did a dive on one of my more favorite wrecks, the “Crane”. However it got off to a bit of a rocky start. Like so many days this summer it was a beautiful day, sunny, low 80’s and calm seas. It started so good. The boat ride was uneventful. It was simply the beginning of a great day! When things work right there is nothing better. When things go wrong it can make for a less than enjoyable dive and an interesting tale. I came away with the later of these.

I had a couple of bottom times planned, 30 or 40 minutes at 150 feet. Prior to the dive I toyed with the idea of trying to locate the barge a short swim away. I thought I would give this a try if the vis was good. I suited up and with Fran’s help attached my deco bottles. I was ready to go, at least so I thought.

I made my way over to the transom. I got to the edge and I made my leap. I entered the water and instantly a couple things were not right. I had a deco regulator free-flowing in my face an unexplainable feeling of cold on my wrist and finally I was horizontal and a little negative . Hope was all but gone! I had to manage these 3 issues and make it back to the ladder if there was any chance of salvaging this dive.

The whole thing kind of went like this; With my left hand I began turning off the free-flowing regulator and trying to establish positive buoyancy. The issue with my right arm took a little thought, a very little. On entry I immediately thought “boy this is cold” on my wrist. That thought immediately turned to “I think I am wet”. It was then, Damn! I am wet! Water began traveling quickly towards my elbow. I got vertical and kicked upwards, I had to get my right hand out of the water. At this point I thought my dry glove had simply popped off, no biggie. I would soon learn it was more than my glove popping off. I managed to get my hand out of the water so I would not take on any more than I already had. With my left I was still dealing with shutting down my free-flowing reg and getting some air in my BC. While this was going on I noticed a dock line dangling right in front of my face. Fran made a perfect toss but both hands were busy. As I kept my right hand out of the water, my left hand shutting down the reg and inflating my BC I kicked towards the ladder, not being able to take advantage of the line for a free ride. I finally made it to the ladder, I had the reg shut down, positive buoyancy and managed to keep my right hand above water. This all took less than 10 seconds!



Firmly on the ladder I discovered it was not simply my glove that had popped off it was the zip seal! I thought for certain my dive was done. I made my way up the ladder, 2 deco bottles attached and managed to make it to the bench. Fran once again worked his magic. He managed to get the seal back on without me having to take off a single thing, not even the glove! I was able to keep the water in my sleeve to a minimum. The dive was on!

So, lets try this again. My entry went much smoother this time. At last, I made it to the bottom and the conditions were fantastic! I had 20 to 25 feet of vis with good available light! I began by dropping to the bottom, settling above the extension boom.

Cont. on page 5

“My Day Off” *cont. from page 4*

The last time I dove this wreck this extension boom was nowhere to be seen. One can only assume it was dragged over this winter by a fishing boat or perhaps a storm was the explanation for it's appearance. This extension boom is almost as pretty as original boom as they both are covered with anemonies. As I reached the end of the primary boom I saw Matt Marcoux, he motioned to ask if I was going over to the barge. I wanted to but thought it was best not to this time. My right arm was wet and I did not know how uncomfortable it was going to get if I stayed for the 40 minute bottom time and required deco. I signaled I was staying on the Crane itself. I swam back towards the base of the crane. As I swam I moved off onto the sand and away from the wreck. I found some things protruding from the bottom that I had never seen. I still don't know what they are. I made it back to what is left of the operator's spot. This part of the wreck is resting on the bottom just to the side of the main body. You can plainly see where the seat would be. The place for the operator's feet is there, a lever and a control box. I swam around the base of the crane, under the boom and examined the treads once again. This was a crawler and the treads seam quite large. I would say they are about 4 feet or so long and the width stretches from my finger tips to my elbow.

Time was drawing near for my shorter bottom time so I decided it was time to head back to surface. I completed my deco and surfaced. In spite of my partial flood I ultimately remained comfortable. I could have done the longer dive and gone over to the barge. Better safe than sorry, I will make my way to the barge another time.

Donna & Peter Conlon's Lobster Bisque Recipe

- 1 cup lobster meat, chopped fine
- 2 tablespoons minced onion
- 4 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 5 tablespoons butter
- 1-1/2 teaspoons salt
- 3 cups milk
- 1 cup heavy whipping cream
- 3 tablespoons fresh chopped chives or green onion



In a medium saucepan sauté lobster mean, onion and butter until onions are soft. Stir flour into pan. When all the ingredients are well-blended, add milk, salt, and cream. Cook over low heat until the soup has thickened. Garnish with chives before serving.

BRAINTREE HISTORICAL SOCIETY GILBERT BEAN MUSEUM AND RESEARCH CENTER

31 Tenney Road

Braintree, Massachusetts 02184

781-848-1640 email: jfahey@beld.net

“SCHEDULED EVENT”

BATTLE OF THE ATLANTIC

U-Boat Warfare on the New England Coast
And the Destruction of the German Submarine
U-853 off Block Island, Rhode Island

Saturday, October 2, 2010 at 10:00am. Admission to the event is \$5.

September/October 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
12	13	14	15	16 General Meeting	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 BSC Treas- ure Hunt	27	28	29	30	1	2 U-853 Pres- entation
3	4	5	6	7 Board Meeting	8 *Banquet*	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16

Birthdays!!!

September 19 - Jeff Goodreau

September 29 - Jim Bogart

October 8 - Sandy LeBree

October 14 - Rick Boucher



DAY	DATE	HIGH				LOW				rise	set	moon
		AM	hgt	PM	hgt	AM	hgt	PM	hgt			
September												
Thursday	16	6:30	7.9	6:46	8.8	12:12	0.6	12:26	1.5	6:23	6:50	
Friday	17	7:33	7.8	7:49	8.6	1:17	0.8	1:31	1.6	6:24	6:48	
Saturday	18	8:32	7.8	8:48	8.7	2:18	0.9	2:31	1.5	6:25	6:47	
Sunday	19	9:24	8	9:39	8.8	3:12	0.8	3:24	1.3	6:26	6:45	
Monday	20	10:09	8.3	10:23	8.9	3:58	0.8	4:10	1	6:27	6:43	
Tuesday	21	10:48	8.5	11:04	8.9	4:39	0.7	4:51	0.8	6:28	6:41	
Wednesday	22	11:24	8.7	11:40	8.9	5:14	0.6	5:29	0.6	6:29	6:39	
Thursday	23	11:56	8.9			5:47	0.6	6:04	0.4	6:30	6:38	☀
Friday	24	12:15	8.8	12:27	9	6:18	0.7	6:38	0.4	6:31	6:36	
Saturday	25	12:49	8.7	12:59	9.1	6:49	0.8	7:13	0.4	6:33	6:34	
Sunday	26	1:24	8.6	1:32	9.1	7:21	0.9	7:49	0.4	6:34	6:32	
Monday	27	2:00	8.3	2:08	9.1	7:57	1	8:28	0.5	6:35	6:30	
Tuesday	28	2:41	8.1	2:48	9	8:36	1.2	9:12	0.6	6:36	6:29	
Wednesday	29	3:25	8	3:35	9	9:21	1.3	10:01	0.7	6:37	6:27	
Thursday	30	4:16	7.8	4:28	8.9	10:12	1.4	10:58	0.7	6:38	6:25	
October												
Friday	1	5:13	7.8	5:28	8.9	11:11	1.4	11:59	0.7	6:39	6:23	
Saturday	2	6:16	7.9	6:34	9.1	12:16 PM	1.3			6:40	6:22	
Sunday	3	7:21	8.3	7:40	9.3	1:04	0.5	1:22	0.9	6:41	6:20	
Monday	4	8:22	8.8	8:44	9.7	2:06	0.1	2:27	0.3	6:43	6:18	
Tuesday	5	9:19	9.5	9:43	10	3:03	-0.3	3:28	-0.3	6:44	6:16	
Wednesday	6	10:12	10.1	10:39	10.3	3:57	-0.7	4:24	-0.9	6:45	6:15	
Thursday	7	11:02	10.6	11:32	10.4	4:48	-0.9	5:18	-1.4	6:46	6:13	☀
Friday	8	11:51	10.9			5:38	-1	6:09	-1.6	6:47	6:11	
Saturday	9	12:24	10.2	12:40	11	6:26	-0.8	7:01	-1.6	6:48	6:10	
Sunday	10	1:16	9.9	1:29	10.8	7:15	-0.5	7:52	-1.3	6:49	6:08	

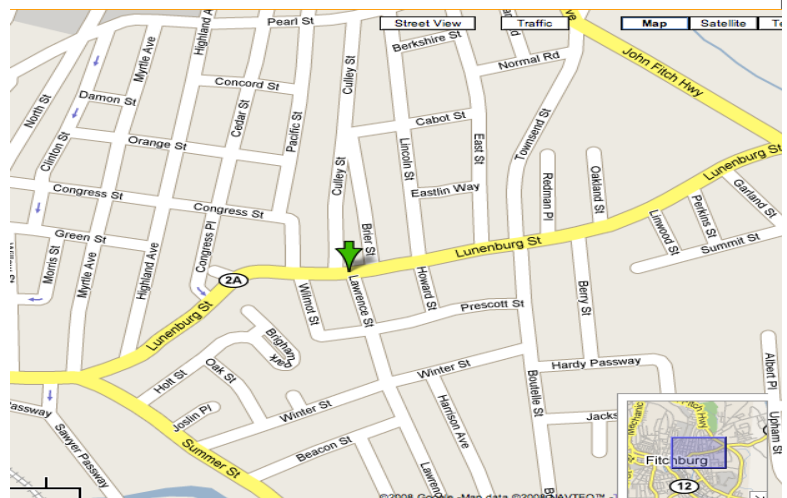
“Up-coming Activities”

**Banquet
Nominations
Elections**

Shore dives, including night dives, to be announced at the next the meeting!

Meeting Time and Location

The United Divers meet once a month on the third Thursday of the month at Slattery’s located at 106 Lunenburg Street, Fitchburg, MA. There is ample parking provided in the rear of the building. The meeting will be taking place in the event room near the back right of the restaurant. The meeting will begin at 7:00p.m. with a social hour beginning at 6:30p.m. If you should have any questions please feel free to contact any of the board members.



ANDY'S
SPORT SHOP, INC.
SKI & SCUBA SPECIALISTS

**216 Daniels Street,
Fitchburg, MA 01420
(978) 343-6330**

Dive Log

United Divers of Central Massachusetts
P.O. Box 57
Fitchburg, Ma 01420
www.uniteddivers.org

Email: For newsletter correspondence
please contact Tom at:
troufos@student.fsc.edu



The Purpose of the United Divers of Central Massachusetts

The purpose of the United Divers of Central Massachusetts is to promote the sportsmanship and sport of SCUBA diving by stimulating our members to achieve the highest standards of safety and proficiency in SCUBA diving. To promote friendship and wholesome social activity among its membership. To promote educational programs that will provide fundamental knowledge supported by actual hands-on experience in a variety of areas including: safe diving practices, conservation of marine ecosystems, first aid and handling diving related emergencies, to organize group SCUBA diving trips, educational and social events that will allow our membership to accomplish all of the above.



United Divers of Central Massachusetts
P.O. Box 57
Fitchburg, Ma 01420