



# Seahorse News

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Creacent Lake  
Randy Glenn Photo

Published monthly by the Boeing Employees Scuba Club.  
c/o Boeing Recreation,  
P.O. Box 3707  
MS 8L-35, Seattle, WA  
98124-2207

News items and editorial comments in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of The Boeing Company.

Don't forget to check the website for the most up-to-date information on the Seahorses:

[www.seahorsediveclub.com](http://www.seahorsediveclub.com)

## Boeing Employees Scuba Club

Thursday, March 27, 2003

7:00PM

Kent Recreation Center, Room A

**Jim Trask & Wayne George-PNWAA**

**&**

**Janna Nichols & Wes Nicholson-REEF**

1. Jim Trask and Wayne George, Directors - Pacific Northwest Aquatic Association  
Jim and Wayne are the Directors of a newly formed organization established for the betterment of SCUBA diving and marine life alike. Their efforts will go toward enhancing the ecology by creating new environments for sea and freshwater plant and animal life and increasing tourism in the regions where the reefs are located. The organization will focus its attention on community awareness, preservation of existing natural and artificial reef systems, education and research. For more info on the PNWAA, visit <http://pnwaa.org>.

2. Janna Nichols and Wes Nicholson, REEF (Reef Environmental Education Foundation)  
Tired of not knowing what you're seeing down there? Find yourself referring to "that orange blobby thing" or "that really odd-looking green fish"? Wes and Janna are now here to help! They're associated with the REEF organization. They have even set up a local field station. Their primary goal is to promote and teach Pacific NW Fish and Invertebrate Identification to divers. They have recently organized the Pacific NW Critter Watchers, manage an email list, and have created a website crammed full of information about 'Critter Watching' in the NW. The website can be found at: [www.pnwscuba.com/critterwatchers](http://www.pnwscuba.com/critterwatchers). Their presentation will introduce divers to a few of the commonly seen critters hanging around local Pacific NW waters. Information will also be presented on how you can make your dives more fun and interesting by participating in REEF survey dives. Also visit [www.reef.org](http://www.reef.org) for more details.

*Non-members and families are completely welcome to attend. Complimentary snacks and soft drinks are always provided. This is also the perfect time to get your exclusive Seahorse T-Shirt, Hat or signature Club Sticker or special order clothing item. Come browse or check something out of the club library too! Members love to get together at the indoor meetings to discuss their latest tropical adventure or to chat about local diving and where the best viz or the coolest critters can be found. For this reason, we ask that you show up a little early, like 6:30. There's always plenty of divers lurking around in the compressor and meeting rooms, swapping dive stories. You may even be lucky enough to get a tank fill even if it's not a regularly scheduled pumping day. Another great reason to show up early. For non-members this is a great way to find out who the Seahorses are and what we are all about. It's also a great way to hook up with some new dive buddies of all experience levels too.*

*See you there!*



# Seahorse News

## 2003 Seahorse Executive Board

Position	Name	Phone	Email
President	<b>Brian Heath</b>	425-237-6195-W 425-430-4407-H	President@seahorsediveclub.com
Vice President	<b>Gary Schnaith</b>	W H	vicepres@seahorsediveclub.com
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Activities	<b>Brian Heath</b>	425-237-6195-W	
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Membership	<b>Dennis Block</b>	425-294-5024-W 360-387-4075-H	membership@seahorsediveclub.com
Newsletter & Photo Contest	<b>Randy Glenn</b>	425-985-2138-W 425-985-2138-H	newsletter@seahorsediveclub.com aquapixel7@attbi.com
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Programs	<b>Ken Blauvelt</b>	206-655-8293-W 425-235-7556-H	programs@seahorsediveclub.com kenb1@yahoo.com
Swap Meet	<b>JD Rowe</b> <b>Robert Hatke</b>	425-965-6361-W 425-965-6361-W	swap@seahorsediveclub.com
Webmaster	<b>Don Shingler</b>		webmaster@seahorsediveclub.com



# Seahorse News

**Orcas, Grey whales, wolf eels, octopus, schools of black rockfish, cabezons, big lings and Eagles! Neah Bay in March is always a blast.**

*By JD Rowe*

As Brian and I prepared to drop in for the second dive we looked up in time to see a huge fin disappearing into the icy green water in the hundred yards between Waddah Island and us. As we shut off the motor and coasted to a stop, two smaller Orcas surfaced. After a few jokes to Brian about how to pose if the Orcas mistook him for a seal, we dropped in to start our dive. We were diving the fingers off of Waddah Island. The fingers are a series of slanted rock walls extending out from shore to 120 feet or more off the North end of Waddah Island. They protrude directly out into the strait and create a noticeable surface disruption during the tidal exchange. The fingers receive the full benefit of the nutrient rich water sweeping in from the open ocean. The invertebrate life, which depends on these nutrients, literally blankets the overhanging walls like a thick shag carpet. The Fingers form a series of underwater canyons and provide fantastic structure, which supports a great fish and invertebrate population. It's awesome structure, some of the walls are 40 foot tall and some of the canyons are 100 feet across. The slanted rock walls protect you when the current is ripping through the strait, but the rock walls also create some really weird up and down currents on both ebb and flood tides. When life is treating me right I can find a canyon with a current to take me out to depth at the beginning of the dive, and then skip over several canyons until I

find one which will take me back to the shallows at the end of the dive. I have a simple dive plan when the visibility is good; cruise down the canyons until I find wolf eels or octopus out in the open. When the vis is bad I'll put on a macro lens and explore the awesome critters that cover the walls. The Fingers cover a vast area and the really difficult thing here is finding the same area twice.



*Self-Portrait with octopus.*

This dive was an exceptional one. On our first dive, I had found a giant pacific octopus stuck on the side of a short wall in one of the canyons. The current was ripping in the area making it really difficult to take photos. Brian found me a few minutes later and posed for a couple of photos with the octopus. It was a nice sized critter, he had about a 6 or 7-foot arm span. With the current rolling, the octopus was content to stay glued to the wall and he accepted a scallop I offered. Both Brian and I took photos of him until our computers told us to head upwards.

After watching the Orcas pass by we dropped in for our second dive. As I began cruising the canyons, I realized I recognized the canyon I was in and I knew the octopus was nearby. It took a few minutes of searching, but I found him again. He was in the same place, but since the current had died down, this time I was able to coax him off the wall when I offered a scallop. Cool, I love taking photos of an octopus on the move. Action photos are always much more interesting, especially when shooting an active eight legged subject!

Wolf eels, Lingcod, black rock bass, yelloweyes, china and tiger rockfish - any fish you've ever seen in a current swept area in the Northwest will likely be found on the Waddah Island Fingers. Nudibranchs, sculpins, Puget Sound King Crabs, and hermit crabs on the rocky reefs carpeted with colorful tunicates, soft corals, and encrusting sponges cause many photographers to burn through a roll of film in the first few minutes of the dive. When I find good visibility here, I will shoot wide angle all weekend. I often find wolf eels in the open here - but these aren't the friendly wolf eels you'll find at Sunrise, the wolf eels here are usually very apprehensive. I did find several this trip that would stay out in the open with me and eat the scallops I offered. No, I don't collect





# Seahorse News

## Sea Horse Dive Trip To Neah Bay Aug 20 thru 23, 2003

Neah Bay, located about 170 miles west of Seattle is the best diving in the state (in my opinion). The cool, clear ocean waters well up at the mouth of the Strait of Juan De Fuca bringing in all those wonderful little nutrients which feed the ecosystem from the smallest invertebrates to the biggest gray whales and all critters in between. My favorite dives here are Duncan and Duntze rocks. They are about 6 miles west of Neah Bay and a mile or so north of Tatoosh Island. These are pinnacles where the base is in 250-300 fsw and the tops come up to 30 fsw (Duntze) and just above seal level (Duncan). This is a hunter's paradise with numerous large ling and rockfish. For those preferring to do their shooting with a camera, you will not be disappointed. Puget Sound king crab, octos, wolf eels, dinner plate sized scallops, 6 inch California muscles, and gobs of other vertebrate and invertebrates are around every corner, in every hole and below every overhang. Last year we found the wreck of the Andalusia about a mile out in front of the campground. The wreck and reef surrounding it make for a great, close in site that is loaded with life and is not too deep (about 50 fsw). Other sites include Tatoosh Island, Mushroom Rock, Waddah Island fingers, Seal Rock, Sail Rock, The garbage dump and just about anywhere you want to go over the side. All the dives we will do on this trip will be boat dives so you will not need to make those nasty long hikes and swims just to get to the good spots. Just fall over the rail of the boat into diving bliss.

The diving around Neah Bay is advanced. Please do *not sign up for this dive if you are not comfortable with underwater navigation and diving in currents. It's a long way to Japan if you miss the boat and end up outside the mouth of the Strait.*

For some great underwater pictures of a few of the sites around Neah Bay, check out Fifth Dimensions website at: <http://www.fifthd.com/divestore/nehbay/nehbay.htm>

Also, I have a copies of the Neah Bay video I made for the photo contest last year if you would like to borrow one.

### TRIP LEADER

Randy Pedersen 425-266-7635 (work)

425-271-1983 (home) [DIVINGWA@YAHOO.COM](mailto:DIVINGWA@YAHOO.COM)

### ACCOMMODATIONS (rates unconfirmed)

We will be staying at Snowcreek Resort (1-800-883-1464 or 360-645-2284, Hwy. 112, Marker 691 - P.O. Box 248 - Neah Bay, WA 98357), about 5 miles east of Neah Bay. This is a fishing resort geared to the serious fisherman

(functional, not glitzy). It has clean restrooms, hot showers (a quarter gets you about 3 minutes), freezer, ice and a small store.

Tent camping is \$17/night. We usually put two or three tents per site to keep the cost down. A camper or RV site is \$22/night for power & water, \$25/night for full service. The cabins will sleep up to 6 in a dorm style room with kitchenette and bathroom for \$75 per night for 2 people and \$10/night for each additional (4 is a comfortable number for a cabin).

### ALTERNATE ACCOMMODATIONS

Tyee - Motel 360-645-2250

Cape - Motel 360-645-2250

### MAXIMUM DIVERS

With the boats currently signed up for the trip the maximum will be 8 divers. As more people sign up I would expect this number to increase.

### COST

Will vary with the number of divers but should be around \$120 (club boat fees for the trip) plus camping & food costs each. Because of the cost and commitment of getting boats out to the site, all divers will be charged for a minimum of 2 days of diving.

### BOAT FEES (rates unconfirmed)

Divers using the club boats and private boats will split the club boat fees. That will be \$25/day per boat plus gas, oil, moorage, launch fees and towing costs. **An additional \$10 per day** will be added to divers on the club boat who are NOT current Sea Horse members (Regular membership is \$16 per year plus \$10 initiation fee for new members).

Launch fees @ Snowcreek using their trolley:

Less than 15 feet \$15 (round trip)

16 feet to 28 feet \$17 (round trip)

Moorage fees @ Snowcreek

On the dock \$0.60 / foot per night

On a Buoy \$5.00 per night

### TIDES / CURRENTS

The tides for this trip are relatively mild by normal Neah Bay standards and should not present a problem. But they can come up in a hurry and become quite fast. Also you should expect heavy ocean swells.

### DIVER EQUIPMENT

The currents rip through the Straits. At least one boat (probably several) will be live at all times. Divers who come up quite a distance away from the dive site are hard to find, especially if we have 4 or 5-foot swells. If you don't already own them, buy or bring a Safety



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Sausage, a Dive Alert, and a whistle. This is really a must for this kind of diving. Also, test your safety Sausage BEFORE you get there. They do not last forever in a BCD pocket. They come in very handy anytime you're drift diving on a boat. Another thing about diving here is the ocean swells. We will always be in swells, sometimes they are pretty large. If you are prone to motion sickness this is the perfect place to get it. Bring some Dramamine and take it before you get on the boat.

## TANKS

Please check all the tanks you plan on bringing on this trip. If they are out of Hydro and / or out of VIP they will NOT be filled. That will leave you on the beach watching the rest of us dive and that would really SUCK!!! Also, if you need to have your tank inspected, please do not wait until the last minute and bring in 4 tanks for inspection. Your VIP inspectors are checking tanks for the good of the club and they have a life outside the compressor room too. Call the scheduled VIP inspector and schedule a time to have your tanks inspected.

## AIR(rates unconfirmed)

I would recommend at least 4. If you only have 2 tanks, you may be standing in line at the compressor instead of diving. Air fills are available at Snowcreek Resort for \$6.00 a fill. Cards are available 12 fills for \$63.00 (5.25 ea.). Tax not included.

You are responsible for paying the cost of filling your tanks as you get them filled. I am NOT going to add that to my spreadsheet to tally all up and divide out after the trip.

## FISHING (unconfirmed)

This is Area 4 in your Washington State fishing regulations. Lingcod season will open April 16 with a 2 fish per day limit (minimum size 24"). Limits of other fish are: Cabezon: 2 fish per day, Rockfish: 10 fish per day – only 1 canary and NO yelloweye. Kelp greenling and most other bottom fish are open with a 15 fish limit. Halibut season will not be open. When this year's (2003) regulations come out, I will update this. 2002-2003 regulations are out and available in PDF format from the site below. <http://www.wa.gov/wdfw/fish/regs/regchng/mar0901a.htm>

## CAMPING

I will reserved some tent spots (probably sites 50, 51 & 52). They are just across the bridge over the creek and directly upstream. This is enough for all that are currently signed up. If you are NOT serious about going, please let me know because it makes my job coordinating this trip much easier. You will be responsible for paying the cost of camping before leaving Snow Creek Resort. I am NOT going to add that to my spreadsheet to tally all up and divide out after the trip.

## BOATS

Currently the following boats are going and when they will be there:

Sea Wolf pulled by Randy P (capacity 4)

Sharkbait pulled by Randy G (capacity 4)

Forgotten name pulled by Dan Ritchie (capacity 4)

Narcosis pulled by ??? (capacity 4)

## My Schedule

I'll let you know as we get closer. I will probably take off Tuesday night.

## Neah Bay Weather

Expect rain, be pleasantly surprised if we get sun. Neah Bay is in a rainforest but since the trip is later this year, we may just have some good weather. But do not count on it. Bring appropriate gear.

## Marine Weather Forecast

[http://www.atmos.washington.edu/data\\_marine\\_report.html](http://www.atmos.washington.edu/data_marine_report.html)

## Neah Bay Photo's

<http://www.charpy.com/Calendar/Dates/1996/960831.htm>

<http://www.fifthd.com/> (Go to the dive reports at the bottom left corner and choose Neah Bay)

## A note For Private Boat Owners

I plan on putting your boats in with the rest of the club boats and am filling them with people who have signed up. If you plan on bringing anyone who is not currently on my list than I need to know about it so I do not put someone in their space. I would like to hear from you either way (bringing someone / not bringing someone). This will make my job MUCH easier. What this does for you is it gives you \$25 dollars a day for miscellaneous expenses and adds your boat fuel and trailering costs to the pool.

## A final note on Neah Bay diving

The weather will be the deciding factor on this dive. If we have small craft advisories then we will not be diving anything that is not protected. The bad news it there is not too many protected sites out there. I would rather err on the side of caution then take a chance of an accident out there.

## The last word on trip expenses

The cost to get the boats to Neah Bay is the biggest single expense of the trip. In the past I have prorated each divers cost depending on how many dive days you spend on the boat. *This year I am going to divide that cost evenly between all people on the trip.* So that means if you dive one day or four days, you will have an equal share of the transportation & launch costs. Fuel and moorage will remain prorated.



# Seahorse News

## Orcas...Neah bay diving...

*continued from page 3*



*JD Rowe Photo  
Brian Heath with  
wolfeel*

scallops for myself, but I will readily feed them to the wolf eels and octopus I find.

Neah Bay is the best diving in the state (in my humble opinion). The cool, clear ocean waters well up at the mouth of the Strait of Juan De Fuca bringing in tons of nutrients which feed the ecosystem from the smallest invertebrates to the biggest gray whales and everything in between. Early Spring is the best time of year to dive Neah Bay, the town is empty and you have the water to yourself. - you don't have to worry about all the fishermen and the place is very much a sleepy town this time of year.

Four divers made the trip this time, Eric, Lucia, Brian, and I. With only one boat, four divers and our ever faithful dive dog, Quint, we stuck close to Neah Bay. We explored the Fingers, the East side of Waddah Island and the wreck of the Andalusia.

Sunday morning Brian and I prepared to drop in, Brian was ready first so he back rolled in to wait for me. As he popped to the surface I heard Brian begin shouting about his zipper being open. Brian quickly scrambled back on board the Sea Wolf and as he opened his cummerbund I could see that his relief zipper was wide open. Sorry man, but checking my buddy's relief zipper is definitely not on my pre-dive check list!

My GPS coordinates for the Andalusia must have been set while the current was flooding - I went back to them this year and found out that we had dropped the anchor on the West end of the wreck. On a flooding current that means the boat would be directly over the wreck, unfortunately we were on an ebbing tide. The dive was great for me; I followed the anchor line down and saw the anchor sitting on a steel plate on the wreck. I realized then that

the wreck lay in front of the boat and I spent my dive touring the wreck. The other divers descended along the kelp near the stern and missed the wreck. The rock reef they toured is beautiful and full of rockfish and lings, but it's not nearly as impressive as the wreck. During our surface interval, Brian and I we watched a gray whale working the kelp beds around Seal and Sail rock. The whales cruise through the kelp feeding on krill, the krill gets so thick at times that it will knock 25 foot visibility down to 3 or 4 feet.

We also dove the East side of Waddah. The rock reefs here are similar to the fingers off Waddah and has much of the same life, but since the area is protected from the currents and the wind, the area is silty compared to the fingers. It features some of the same structure and Brian and I found a big school of black rockfish and 3 wolf eels. One of the wolf eels was out in the sand fifty yards or more from the rocky reefs; I assume he was just out looking for lunch. The East side is a great alternative to the Fingers when the current is running or the wind waves have combined with the swells to make other sites too rough to dive.

I try to make as many trips to Neah each year as possible, and after a trip like this you can be sure I'll be



*Octopus cruising  
the reef.*

*JD Rowe Photo*



# Seahorse News

## Sea Wolf Adventures – Possession Point Ferry & Wall

By Randy Pedersen



This is the first in what I hope will be a series of dive adventures from our dive clubs newest boat, the Sea Wolf.

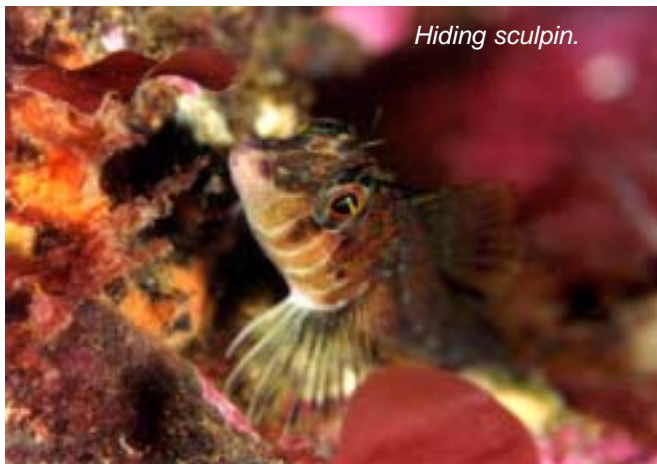
(April 12<sup>th</sup>), JD Rowe, Ervin Moore, Mike Rawlings and I put the Sea Wolf in at the Everett boat launch. We putted out of Port Gardner into Possession Sound and turned south. On the southern most tip of Whidbey Island is Possession Point. This is where the state sank an old wood hulled ferry back in the late 60s or early 70s. Today, most of the wreck interior has collapsed in on itself and the only wood structure still standing are the large ribs with some of the thick hull timbers

We anchored on it in about 70 fsw (Feet of salt water) and sent the first two divers down the line. About 30 minutes later Mike Rawlings came back up the anchor line and to the boat. His report was good. Light current

and pretty good visibility on the wreck. JD & I ran into Ervin Moore coming up the anchor rope as we descended. At about 50 fsw the wreck started taking shape. JD & I started working our way along the wreck. I was shooting video and he was snapping 35mm photos. The lingcod love this sort of structure and could be found around every corner and on many ledges. I saw a couple of mighty big ones ducking in the holes as we passed. There are also many copper & quillback rockfish, gobs of painted greenling and massive schools of perch. I also managed to get some clips of two or three different types of nudibranch. Most of the dive was at 60-70 feet so an aluminum 80 will only last you so long. We made our way back to the anchor and moved it to a place where it wouldn't get caught on something when we pulled it up. After about a 5-minute safety stop at 20 fsw we surfaced and reboarded the boat. Once on board Ervin & Mike asked us if we had seen the gray whales that swim by while we were on the wreck. We thought they were joking at first but as it turns out they were not. A couple had passed quite close to our boat.

Our next stop is Possession Wall. This site is just to the east of the southern point of Whidbey Island. It is a clay wall that starts about 20 fsw and goes down deeper then I am going to go. There are many shelves and holes for critters to hide in. We saw most everything we saw on the ferry along with a large school of yellowtail & and a few black rockfish. There were several dungeness crab on the wall too. I suspect they came or fell over from the sandy top to this wall. JD also found a small golf ball crab which got a minute or two of my videotape. As far as I can remember, that was only the second time I have seen one of those. Maybe he'll show up in a future production. We swam against the light current between 40-60 fsw until our computers were getting near the caution zone for forced decompression. I prefer so stay well clear of deco dives so we made our way back up to the top of the wall and rode the current back to the boat.

The only thing left to do was to head back and put our toys away. The water was flat so we made good time getting back to the launch.



*Hiding sculpin.*



*Painted greenling.*

# Seahorse News



BOEING EMPLOYEES SCUBA CLUB (SEA HORSES) MEMBERSHIP FORM								
Circle all that apply:		New member		Renewal		Change information		
<b>Member Information</b>				<b>Family Member Information</b>				
(last name)	(first name)	(print my name as...)		(last name)	(first name)			
(work phone with area code)	(M/S)	(work e-mail)		(last name)	(first name)			
(street address)				(last name)	(first name)			
(city)		(state)	(zip code)	(last name)	(first name)			
(home phone with area code)		(home e-mail)		(last name)	(first name)			
<b>Dive Training and Experience (if applicable)</b>								
Highest Certification (circle)								
Non-Diver	Open Water	Advanced	Rescue Diver	Divemaster	Assist. Instr.	Instructor		
Certifying Agency:				Card No.				
Experience (No. of dives)								
Less than 50		50 to 100		100 to 500		More than 500		
Please put me on the Sea Horses Dive Buddy List:				Yes		No		
<b>Information Confidentiality (please circle) Non-response is NO</b>								
May the club publish your membership information in the following manner?				Address		Phone No.		
The club's web site?				Yes	No	Yes	No	
The club newsletter?				Yes	No	Yes	No	
May the club GIVE your name and address to a dive shop or other scuba related business?						Yes		No
<b>Dues (New members joining after June 30<sup>th</sup> pay ½ dues)</b>								
Initiation (one time fee for new members)					x	\$10		
Regular Membership (individual employee, contractor, or supplier)					x	\$20		
Family Membership (includes spouse and dependent children of member)					x	\$30		
Associate Membership (former employee, qualifying family member)					x	\$30		
Retiree membership (retired per Boeing rules)					x	\$5		
Late fee (renewing after March 1 <sup>st</sup> )					x	\$5		
Total (make check payable to: Boeing Employees Scuba Diving Club)								
(name)						(date)		

Please complete this form, sign, and send your check to:

Dennis Block  
 The Boeing Co.  
 P.O. Box 3707, M/S 0J-FL  
 Seattle WA, 98124  
 phone (425) 294-5024

**NOTES: Each participant in club activities MUST fill-out and sign the Release of Liability and Indemnification Agreement. A parent or legal guardian must sign for each minor under age 18.**

**Each Associate member must also fill-out the separate Associate Membership form. See the Associate Membership form for qualification rules.**



# Seahorse News

## Boeing Employees Scuba Diving Club – Puget Sound Release of Liability And Indemnification Agreement

I wish to participate myself or have a minor participate in the Boeing Employees' Scuba Club – Puget Sound activities (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "SCUBA CLUB"). In consideration for the right to participate in Scuba Club activities, I acknowledge and agree as follows:

1. I am aware that the SCUBA CLUB is an employee recreation club sponsored by The Boeing Company. I acknowledge that participation in SCUBA CLUB activities is entirely voluntary and unrelated to my or any relative's employment or job duties. The term "SCUBA CLUB activities" means any activity organized or conducted by the SCUBA CLUB or for which the SCUBA CLUB is otherwise responsible, including any transportation for which the SCUBA CLUB is responsible.
2. I am aware that scuba diving is a hazardous sport and that the SCUBA CLUB activities involve risks and dangers, including the risk of serious injury or death. I certify that I am aware of and accept full responsibility for all of the risks involved in SCUBA CLUB activities, including but not limited to the risks inherent in scuba diving and in the scuba diving environment, whether caused by weather conditions, air expansion injuries, drowning, decompression sickness, slipping or falling while on board, being cut or struck by a boat while in the water, injuries occurring while getting on or off the boat, inexperience, and other perils of the sea, ocean, lake, river, or quarry, and the actions or negligence of SCUBA CLUB members or participants, or any other persons, or accidents or illness in remote areas without medical facilities.
3. I accept my responsibility and the responsibility of any minor for whom I am signing this Agreement to act safely at all times, to obey all policies and to adhere to any rules, policies and instructions provided by the SCUBA CLUB. I acknowledge that I am responsible for any equipment that I, or any minor I am signing this Agreement for, use while diving and accept full responsibility for the condition of such equipment and any risks or dangers caused by such equipment.
4. I agree to RELEASE, HOLD HARMLESS, INDEMNIFY AND DEFEND THE SCUBA CLUB, and the Boeing Company, and their respective directors, technical directors, officers, instructors, members, employees, and agents, FROM ANY AND ALL LIABILITY CLAIMS AND CAUSES OF ACTION ARISING OUT OF OR CONNECTED IN ANY WAY WITH PARTICIPATION IN ANY OF THE SCUBA CLUB ACTIVITIES BY MYSELF OR ANY MINOR FOR WHOM I AM SIGNING THIS RELEASE AS WELL AS ANY COSTS OR EXPENSES, INCLUDING REASONABLE ATTORNEYS' FEES, INCURRED IN CONNECTION WITH SUCH CLAIMS.
5. If I am signing on behalf of a minor, I acknowledge that I am releasing and indemnifying against any and all claims that I may have as the minor's parent or legal guardian, whether or not the release of the minor's own claims is found to be enforceable under the applicable law. In the event that the release of the minor's own claims is held not to be enforceable, I AGREE TO ACCEPT FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY SUCH CLAIM OF THE MINOR AND TO HOLD HARMLESS, INDEMNIFY AND DEFEND THE SCUBA CLUB, The Boeing Company, and their respective directors, technical directors, officers, instructors, members, employees, and agents, FROM ANY AND ALL CLAIMS BY OR ON BEHALF OF THE MINOR ARISING OUT OF OR CONNECTED IN ANY WAY WITH PARTICIPATION IN ANY OF THE SCUBA CLUB ACTIVITIES BY MYSELF OR ANY MINOR FOR WHOM I AM SIGNING THIS AGREEMENT AS WELL AS ANY COSTS OR EXPENSES, INCLUDING REASONABLE ATTORNEYS FEES, INCURRED IN CONNECTION WITH SUCH CLAIMS.
6. I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THE RELEASE AND INDEMNITY PROVISIONS IN PARAGRAPHS 4 AND 5 APPLY TO ALL CLAIMS FOR INJURY OR DAMAGE RESULTING FROM ANY CAUSE, INCLUDING THE NEGLIGENCE OF ANY PARTY RELEASED HEREIN. I FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THIS AGREEMENT SHALL BE BINDING ON ALL FAMILY MEMBERS, INCLUDING MINORS, GUARDIANS, HEIRS AND ANY EXECUTOR OR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE.
7. I agree that this Agreement should be enforced to the full extent permitted by law. If any section or part of this Agreement is held not to be enforceable under the applicable law, the remainder of the Agreement shall be enforced. The release and indemnification provisions of this Agreement do not apply to reckless or intentional acts unless permitted by the applicable law.
8. If I am signing this Agreement as an adult participant, I state that I am 18 years of age or older and legally competent to sign this Release of Liability and Indemnification Agreement. I affirm that I am a passenger, a certified diver, or a student diver under the control and supervision of a certified scuba instructor. I understand that these terms are contractual and not a mere recital. I have signed this document of my own free act. I HAVE FULLY INFORMED MYSELF OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS RELEASE AND INDEMNITY BY READING IT BEFORE I SIGNED IT.
9. If I am signing this agreement for a minor participant (parents or legal guardians must sign for all persons under 18 years of age), I state that I am the parent or legal guardian of the minor participant signing this Release of Liability and Indemnification Agreement and that I am legally competent to sign this Agreement on behalf of the minor. I have discussed with the minor the risks and responsibilities of participating in the SCUBA CLUB activities and represent that the minor is sufficiently mature to understand the responsibility to act safely and to abide by the rules, policies and instructions of the SCUBA CLUB. I understand that these terms are contractual and not a mere recital. I have signed this document of my own free act. I HAVE FULLY INFORMED MYSELF OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS RELEASE AND INDEMNITY BY READING IT BEFORE I SIGNED IT.

For Calendar Year \_\_\_\_\_ Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Participant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_ Date Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date Signed \_\_\_\_\_



# Seahorse News

## ***Dive the Channel Islands with The Boeing Seahorses***

Join us aboard the Peace for three days of fantastic diving in the Channel Island Marine Sanctuary. We will be living in comfortable accommodations, enjoying fantastic meals, and frolicing in the 70 degree waters of California.

**June 13th, 14th and 15th of 2003.**

Board the Peace at 12:00 am on June 13th. Wake up on the morning of the 13th and greet yourself with a morning dive in the Channel Islands. That is just the beginning. You can enjoy as much diving as you are capable of. In between diving and relaxing, there will be some great food, as well as a relaxing, onboard hottub. After three days of fabulous eating and diving, we will return to Ventura and spend the night before boarding a plane the next afternoon to return home.

**Price: Only \$690**

25% by January 7th (\$172.50),  
50% due by February 15th (\$345.00),  
and balance due by April 1st. (\$172.50)

Includes airfare, last night hotel, food and beverages onboard the Peace, air and diving (+two night dives)

Nitrox is available (\$75.00 extra for the trip, \$25.00 per day or \$8.00 per fill).

Seven single berths and four double berths are available, total of 15 slots

**Two singles and two doubles left!**



### **Cancellation Policy:**

Refund available up to 90 days less \$35.00 reservation fee.

After April 15, \$100 cancellation fee will be charged unless you provide a replacement diver.

Details and information packet provided with deposit and sign-up.

For information:

Contact Randy A. Glenn 425-255-4427 or 425-985-2138

Email: [aquapixel7@attbi.com](mailto:aquapixel7@attbi.com)

View information on the Peace at [www.peaceboat.com](http://www.peaceboat.com)





# Seahorse News

## Ask Dr. B. A. Seahorse!

We are very fortunate to have Dr. B. A. Seahorse with us here at the Boeing Employees' SCUBA Club. Dr. B., as he prefers, has knowledge about all aspects of SCUBA diving. Dr. B. is a very humble old fellow. The co-inventor of the Aqua-Lung, with his longtime pal, Jacques, Dr. B. has been involved with the sport longer than anyone has. He has accumulated vast knowledge in his travels around the world advancing the knowledge of all those who seek to understand the ways of SCUBA diving. Although Dr. B. is humble and reserved, sometimes he can be very opinionated and may not necessarily agree with others. Certainly his opinions do not necessarily reflect those of The Boeing Company or its officers. Dr. B. is willing to answer any of your questions related to SCUBA diving or the Boeing Employees' SCUBA Club. He encourages questions about the way the dive club is run or basic diving issues. Don't be afraid to ask what you think is a silly question. Please submit your questions by Email to: [doctorb@seahorsediveclub](mailto:doctorb@seahorsediveclub).

*Now, onto our question:*

### How much training and how fast?

Is it best to jump right into AOW (advanced open water), Rescue, Dive Master before actually becoming comfortable with all the skills introduced in the beginning class?

### Confused on Camano Isl.,

That's a very good question and I'm glad you asked it. Every new diver has been through this scenario. Based on the opinions of Dr. B. and a few of his colleagues, the short answer is no. But wait! Read on for a more detailed explanation. Back when Mr. C. and I started diving, we trained our pals from tables based on scientific data I collected on diving medicine from experiments on feral dogs. By the way, our tests found that Dachshunds have the most identical tissue compartment decompression model to humans of all of the canine species, making them an ideal test subject. Anyway, back to your question, things were very simple in the old days, we all learned and shared from each other's experiences as we went and there were no formal training organizations. Nowadays there are many formal training organizations to choose from. This has brought many advantages to the sport, including, safety, regulation, and most importantly my favorite, increased exposure of the underwater

realm. Unfortunately it has brought a disadvantage, the desire for CASH. Many of these agencies are driven by their need to be profitable, and with good reason. It takes lots of funding to bring the greatness of the sport safely to all. Now, getting to your question, most organizations will try to push for advancing education immediately out of OW certification. The justification for this is usually that the basic skills are fresh and to do really fun stuff (photography, night diving, drysuit diving, drift diving, navigation...) you need the advanced certification anyway. Well, there is some truth to this. What they are also hoping for is the \$\$\$. Cash from membership fees and sales of the latest dive equipment and others all help to fuel the industry and the popularity of their organization. Which actually doesn't seem so bad. However, is it actually "best to jump right in" as you are asking? Well, Dr. B. knows and has known lots and lots of divers. What I have found is that a textbook, CD-ROM, video or classroom session, although excellent supplemental learning tools, are no substitute for actual diving experience. Basically, advanced certifications **will not** automatically make you a better diver, experience will (when following safe and conscientious practices, of course). What scares me about some of the organization's influence on new divers is the perception that advanced certs. = experience, giving a false sense of security. Being fair, this influence also comes from human nature, people just love to achieve a higher status. Another disturbing example is when an individual or, say, a boat charter, judges qualification based on a C-card level and refuses service. This is not a foolproof method of ensuring the most qualified divers are participating. However, most divers and charters are starting to realize this and request a logbook for advanced dives. One respectable organization even rewards divers with a card that is equivalent to the number of logged dives. This still doesn't ensure someone with 1000 logged dives in Cozumel is qualified to do a 240' trimix dive on the Andrea Doria, but is one way to ensure actual experience. Okay, I'm going to wrap this up now because I have to meet with a SEAL team in the morning. Dr. B. has observed that individuals adapt to diving skills at different rates. Basically, an advanced cert. is a fantastic way of increasing your knowledge and safety in the sport under a controlled and structured "hand-held" environment. One should move on to advanced certification when one feels the need or desire. It could be less than 10 dives or it could be 100 or more. However, it is the belief of Dr. B. that it is possible to forget, or, not absorb,

*continued on page 12*



# Seahorse News

much of the valuable information to be learned in an advanced cert. if one does not have a small experience base to build from. Even then, a "formal" advanced cert. may not be essential for all individuals. Certainly a rescue class can only add valuable lifesaving skills, but other specialty skills can be learned by participating in the expansive mix of dives available within this great club of yours. I know some of your members are instructors and many others have vast experience in other really cool specialties like photography, night diving, navigation, hunting, drysuit diving, boat diving and many others. Skills like these don't require formal training to be quite proficient at, although it may complete or accelerate the learning process. These highly qualified fellow club members can be found regularly on the many club-sponsored boat and shore dives that are offered throughout the year. Just hang around and learn as much as you can from many of the cool Seahorses. Then, go ahead and get that advanced cert. you have been wanting and go diving! Remember to practice and share that knowledge with other new divers. It keeps your skills fresh. Don't ever think that you are completely finished learning about SCUBA diving. Each dive represents further learning experiences. Why, even Dr. B. knows of a very qualified individual who experienced that your tank delivers air most efficiently when the valve is turned all the way open (less ¼ turn) and not just cracked open. Or that the 80mm lens on the Nikonos V focuses most sharp at infinity with the Nikonos Close-up kit on and not at minimum focus. And finally, be like Dr. B., be safe, have fun, and don't dive out of your comfort zone.



*Octo on the prowl at night at Three Tree Point.*

## **Cozumel with the Seahorses October 25-Nov. 1, 2003**

**Your package includes:  
Roundtrip air from Seattle to Cozumel (flight times are subject to change):**

**25 Oct - dep SEA 6:00am, arr Houston IAH 12:04pm; dep IAH 1:26pm, arr CZM 3:39pm**

**01 Nov - dep CZM 12:25pm, arr Houston IAH 2:36pm; dep 5:35pm arr SEA 8:01pm**

- 7 nights hotel at Plaza las Glorias**
- 5 days of 2-tank morning boat diving (Dive Paradise)**
- 4 free single-tank 3:00 pm boat dives**
- Hotel maid and bellman service charges.**
- Diving includes soft drinks, tanks & weights; snack on 2-tank trips**

**\$200 Deposit due ASAP  
reserves your space  
Contact Todd Osborne  
425-717-4995 or M/S 02-74**

**U.S. and Mexico government taxes  
applicable at this time**



# Seahorse News

## 2003 Photo Contest Rules



Previous Contest winners.  
Cal's Clownfish,  
Norm's Salmon,  
and J.D.'s octo.



To find out what will be this year's **Best of Show** photo, attend the October Club meeting to make your choice known.

### Categories:

1. **NW Underwater Macro** (Print and Slide)
2. **NW Underwater Wide-Angle** (Print and Slide)
3. **Above Water-Diving Related**
4. **Warm Water Macro** (Tropical) (Print and Slide)
5. **Warm Water Wide-Angle** (Tropical) (Print and Slide)
6. **Creative** (Computer-generated art, crafts to sculpture)
7. **Video** Cinematographer, Producer
8. **Slideshow**
9. **Novice**(First year Photographers only)
10. **Best of Show**

### Golden Rule:

All photos entered must have been taken between October 1, 2002 and September 30, 2003.

### Photographs:

1. Previous Seahorse photo contest first place winners are not allowed.
2. The entering member must have taken the photo.
3. Mats, frames, odd sizes, etc are fine.
4. No photo retouching is allowed in categories 1-5.
5. Maximum print size for entry is 16x20.

### Video:

1. No longer than 4 minutes, VHS or PC Compatible CD. Longer entries must be pre-approved.
2. The entering member(s) must be the cinematographer and/or producer.
3. No professional editing allowed. You shoot, you edit!

*Address all comments and concerns to Randy Glenn at 425-255-4427 or [aquapixel7@attbi.com](mailto:aquapixel7@attbi.com).*

"Year in review" slideshow highlighting the past year will be featured at the Christmas party. Your contributions will be solicited and appreciated.

### Slideshow:

1. Slideshows must be on VHS or PC compatible CD. If you are playing a slideshow on PC/Laptop, you must provide all necessary viewing equipment.
2. Limit is 3 minutes.

### Slide submissions:

A jpeg photo of individual slides must be submitted to create judging sheet no later than October 1, 2002 ([aquapixel7@attbi.com](mailto:aquapixel7@attbi.com)). No individual slide entries will be accepted at the meeting.

### General:

Naming your entries is highly encouraged.

The Best of Show will be selected from the first place finishers. The judges will be the executive board members present who did not place first in any category.

Votes will be tallied during the general meeting that shall immediately follow the contest.

Maximum time limit for videos is 4 minutes.

Be mindful of your use of copyrighted material.

If any problem or disputes arise during the contest with these rules, the photo chairman and club president will jointly resolve the issue.

Photographers whose prints are selected for the club auction at the Christmas party will be notified the after the contest to allow sufficient time to reproduce images.

### Prizes:

The First Place winners of the each category 1-9 will receive a free 16x20 enlargement and a additional gift.



# Seahorse News

## Upcoming Activities

Location	Dates	Contact	Phone	Rating
Seahorse Easter Egg Hunt	April 19, 2003	Brian Heath	425-430-4407	All
Channel Islands	CANCELLED			
Neah Bay	August 23, 24, 25, 2003	Randy Pedersen	425-266-7635	All
Cozumel (Seahorses)	October 25-Nov. 1, 2003	Todd Osborne	425-717-4995	All
Refer to the Calender at <a href="http://seahorsediveclub.com">seahorsediveclub.com</a> for additional activities.				

## Dive Locker Order Form

- Seahorse Stickers      \$1
- T-Shirts                      \$15
- Hats-Embroidered      \$15

Please see the Seahorse website for pictures of items and color samples.  
<http://seahorsediveclub.com/divelocker.htm>

**Make checks payable to:**  
 Boeing Employees Scuba Club  
**Send to:**  
 Cheryl Petersen  
 P.O. Box 1534  
 Renton, WA 98057-1534  
 or  
 MS 97-78

**Questions?**  
 Contact Cheryl Petersen  
[locker@seahorsediveclub.com](mailto:locker@seahorsediveclub.com)  
 206-683-6813

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_

Item	Color	Size	Qty	Price Each	Total
Total Items				Total Price	



# Seahorse News



Photos by Randy Glenn

Photo by J.D. Rowe

## Sea Horse Training Center

The Boeing Scuba Club does not conduct scuba training, but the club has several highly qualified and experienced instructors among its membership. We refer prospective students to our instructor-members-or to recommended dive shops nearer a student's home, if the location of instructor-member classes is inconvenient.

For general information about scuba training, contact Sea Horse Training Coordinator Cathy Recio at (253) 773-5532 (W), or (253) 520-8152 (h) or [training@seahorsediveclub.com](mailto:training@seahorsediveclub.com) For information about specific, upcoming class offerings and locations, refer to the list below or the on click on the training text at the website.

### Eastside Classes:

**Instructor: George Barron:** (425) 443-6800 (C) (425) 294-3277 (W) (425) 254-1894 (H)

### Southend Classes:

**Instructor: Cathy and Oly Recio,** (253) 773-5432(W); (253) 520-8152 (H); M/S: 8J-68  
email: [catherine.recio@pss.boeing.com](mailto:catherine.recio@pss.boeing.com) (W); [olycathy@aol.com](mailto:olycathy@aol.com) (h)

**Instructor: John Meyer** (253) 773-3585 (W), (253) 630-3370 (H); M/S: 8K-32;  
email: [john.meyer@pss.boeing.com](mailto:john.meyer@pss.boeing.com) (W); [john@scubaventures-diving.com](mailto:john@scubaventures-diving.com) (H)

### Northend Classes:

**Instructor: Jim Groseclose.** (206) 662-1373 (W), (360) 802-0874 (H), M/S: 4T-48

## SEAHORSE EASTER EGG HUNT - APRIL 19TH

Contact Brian Heath to participate in the event this weekend. Don't have the time to dive, but you want to assist the club, volunteer to help at the event. Be a beachmaster, cook hotdogs, help with set up and teardown of the event, there is plenty more to do. You can reach Brian at either 425-237-6195-W or 425-430-4407-H and let him know you are interested and want to be involved.

*See you there--  
Editor*