



KELP KRAWLERS DIVE CLUB

January 2010

www.kelpkrawlers.org

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Prez Sez

by Dave Miller

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy New Year! It is my honor and privilege to be the newly elected president of the Kelp Krawlers Dive Club for 2010. Thank you to all the members that extended their confidence in me to help guide the group through the coming year.

First, and foremost, I would like to thank my predecessor, Amy Kurtenbach, for her dedicated service as president of the club for the past three years. I plan to unscrupulously exploit her experience and organizational skills as my leadership consultant through the coming year. I am looking forward to working with the other board and club members to make 2010 a great year in our diving community. Some goals that I would like to see realized this year are:

1. A full Club Dive calendar for the year, with ever increasing attendance.
2. Club meetings that consistently offer interesting presentations and agendas.
3. Greater outreach and communication with new and prospective members.
4. Scheduling of social events, such as a Spring Party at the Grange, or similar.
5. The implementation of one or more Conservation, Community Service, or Dive Community projects.

Many of these tasks are well underway, and easily attainable with the dedicated group of board members we currently have. Thanks, you guys, for your efforts!

I encourage all members to participate in the process by sharing your ideas with the club, either at a meeting, or with a particular board member, or through e-mail. I would love to hear from anyone that has an idea to share. Please E-mail me directly at:

kelpkrawlers@comcast.net

Also, remember to sign up for "FaceBook" online if you haven't already. It's a great source for real-time updates on what the club and fellow members are up to. We also have the Kelp Krawlers Yahoo News Group and the club website at www.kelpkrawlers.org

Another work in progress is the design, ordering, and sales of Kelp Krawler Gear. There

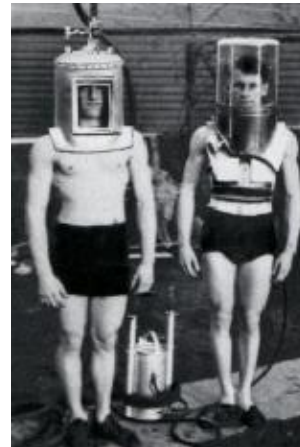
will be a sign-up sheet at the meeting, again, as we continue to poll members on their gear preferences. I hope to gather as much input as possible, so sign-up at the meeting, or, if you can't make it, send an e-mail with your ideas or requests.

Once again, my thanks to all of you. Happy New Year and Safe Diving!

HAPPY NEW YEAR! A Diving Timeline

Submitted by Carolyn Fornoff

After my first dive of the New Year I took the time to think about the origin of the sport of scuba. The following is a very brief history of how the sport of scuba came to be (most interesting to me):



415BC. Early civilizations used free-diving as a method to fish and in competitions. The evidence of early free-diving is the finding of sea items found on land and ancient pictures of divers. Greek divers were deployed to attack ships in Syracuse.

360BC. Some of the early attempts in the history of scuba diving to dive with the use of air include snorkeling with hollow reeds, using air-filled bags and diving bells.

1500. Leonardo da Vinci designs the first self-contained underwater breathing apparatus (SCUBA). No evidence that he actually built it, but seemed to have concentrated more on the refining of the diving bell.

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1531. One of the first times the diving bell was used to complete a one-hour dive.

1660. The English physicist Robert Boyle studied the physical properties of compressed air: Boyle's Law.

1772. In France, Dr Freminet completes a dive in a leather suit with a copper helmet. The first diving suits were made of leather and air was pumped into them from the surface with manual pumps.

1869-1883. Many of the laborers during the building of the Brooklyn Bridge were getting symptoms after spending a long time in high pressure caissons that are placed in the riverbed. Their disease was called "caisson disease".

1910. J.S. Haldane develops a procedure to prevent decompression illness, or caisson disease. He publishes the first five dive tables.

1915. "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea" is the first underwater film which was shot on location in the Bahamas. It took 1 ½ years to create this silent film.

1943. Jacques Yves Cousteau develops the "Aqualung", which



become the basis for modern diving equipment.

1953. The first neoprene suit is developed.

1966. Profession Association of Diving Instructors (PADI) is founded and specializes in recreational dive training.

1983. The first commercial dive computer which registers depth,

dive time and decompression time is introduced.

Early 1980's. Kelp Krawlers dive club was organized in Olympia, Washington.

2002. Carolyn becomes a certified scuba diver.

Cheers to the pioneers and veterans of the scuba world!



Where In The World...

The Traveling Kelp Krawlers

This feature spotlights the travels and adventures of our club members... Past, Present, and Future. We gather these stories from the shared discussions at meetings, web posts, and any information you send by e-mail. Please send pictures and stories to include in this section.

Ryan Caldwell

Antarctica Adventure II

The following is an e-mail sent from Kelp Krawler Ryan Caldwell while on his filming expedition with the BBC in Antarctica. Received 1/15/2010:

Hello,

I am now in Palmer station with some free time.

Palmer CAM: <http://4dgeo.whoi.edu/tsg/>

Info on Palmer: [Palmer Station - Antarctica Research Stations- Antarctic Connection](#)

The weather has been excellent until yesterday when a large storm moved in. 40-50 mile winds with snow and a temp of about 10F. Our biggest restriction with weather is wind. We get around island to island via zodiacs and there not great in rough seas. Dressed right it's not bad. We

are spectacular. But, this dive was cancelled due to the turbulent swells.

The adventures improved, however with our next three charter trips during the day. Including a great couple of dives on Christmas day. We saw many moray eels, white tip reef sharks, a tiger shark, mantas, octopus, and we even watched a large conch snail attack a sea urchin. During our surface interval the captain cruised around looking for whales. We were lucky enough to spot a humpback on one occasion. On one outing, we visited a cave known as “suck-em-up”. After riding the surge and dodging the rocks to get in, you proceed through towards an opening at the other end. If you time it right, the waves will shoot you through the opening and out of the tube. It was better than a rollercoaster.

Besides diving, we enjoyed visiting “South Point” (the southernmost point in the US) and hiking to the green sand beach. We dined on a restaurant lanai on Christmas with waves crashing over so high they had to move the tables back. We visited other lovely beaches, toured Kona coffee growers, and shopped in Kailua. And, of course, attended a Christmas Luau.



It was a great trip, and there is something to be said for visiting a tropical paradise that is IN THE U.S. No customs, etc. The traveling was relatively stress free, and the people were great. Put Kona on your “must visit” list!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The club would like to extend a sincere **welcome** to the newest members of the Kelp Krawlers. *You* can determine your level of involvement with the club, but know that we are always looking for new talent and help with leadership activities. Our goal is to enrich your diving (and social) experience no matter what your skill level. We look forward to sharing the experience of fellowship and diving with you, your family, and friends.

In the future, this section will have more detailed info on new members (if they so choose), including experience level, diving day preferences, and other pertinent info to help get divers into the water.

Conservation Corner – Dangerous Houseguests

By Steve Sutton

Last year Kelp Krawler club members participated in the success-

ful removal of an invasive tunicate from the Sund Rock area that was rapidly overwhelming the dive site. Just what is an invasive species? Invasiveterrestrial or aquatic species have traveled from their native homes where natural enemies or disease have kept them in check, to a new location where they reproduce and rapidly spread. They come via ship bilge water, pleasure boat hulls and trailers, packing materials, luggage, pant leg cuffs, boot soles, and many other ways. They then spread and multiply, some clogging waterways, some clogging irrigation systems, and most threatening local species. Invasive species impact nearly half of the plants and animals listed as threatened or endangered under the U.S. Endangered Species Act.

One event close to home was the recent discovery of the aquatic invasive New Zealand Mud snail in Capitol Lake in Olympia. The 1/8” mud snails, found in fresh or brackish waters, multiply quickly and can crowd out native species. They reproduce asexually so it only takes one mud snail to introduce the species to a new area.

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife website notes a few examples of aquatic invasive species: *Readily observed examples of aquatic invasive species in the inland marine waters of Puget Sound and the Georgia Basin include cordgrasses (Spartina spp.), Japanese eelgrass, (Zostera japonica), Oyster drill (Ceratostomainornatum), varnish or dark mahogany clam (Nuttaliaobscurata), and the European Green crab (Carcinusmaenas). In the past two years three species of non-native tunicates have developed rapidly expanding populations in Puget Sound and Hood Canal. Freshwater invasive species in Washington include Eurasian Water Milfoil (Myriophyllumspicatum), the Asian clam (corbiculafluminea) and the New Zealand mudsnail (Potamopyrgusantipodarum).*

What can we as divers do to help locate and eradicate these unwanted houseguests?

Learn how to recognize these species - although there is a huge list you could specialize in just one or two; report any sightings (see below)

Participate in group removal activities like the Sund Rock event

Thoroughly clean the hull and trailer of your boat on exit from either lakes or Puget Sound waters

When returning from travel, thoroughly check all clothes and equipment; be careful with souvenirs (intended or otherwise)

Don't inadvertently plant an invasive plant in your garden!

Do research and learn how to become more involved – here is a good place to start: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/ans/tunicates.htm>

State aquatic managers ask the public to report sightings of tunicates and other aquatic invasive species. Everyone is encouraged to visit the WDFW website, become familiar with these invaders and report any sightings. To report sightings contact:

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