

# August 2014 | Newsletter

Hey Team,

Shark Week is coming up **August 1<sup>st</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>**. The new **1:30pm** show for that week is in the Show Binder for everyone to review.

I'll have your Final August Schedule uploaded to the website as well. Nothing major has been changed since the last update.

Here's your August Newsletter:

## Dive News:

- Once again, we'll be having a Team meeting **Saturday August 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 12/noon**. We'll cover our plans for Surface Supply Safety Diver Training Future of our Program And any other questions you guys have for us **Please RSVP if you can make it.**

## Gear News:

- This is more or less my halfway mark of the year since I started. While number crunching isn't my thing, I do like looking at statistics. So with 6 months of record keeping, here's our numbers for Gear repair so far. Since February we've replaced:  
**29** Tank O-rings  
**10** Mouthpieces  
**7** Dust Caps  
**6** pairs of SPG Spool O-rings  
**3** Rusted Reg Filters  
**4** Pony Bottle Split Rings  
**2** Hoses (1 HP, 1 Inflator)  
**2** Fin Straps  
**1** Fin Buckle  
**1** Guardian Microphone  
**1** SPG  
**1** Set of Batteries for the Dive Light  
**2** Pony bottle Button SPG (inaccurate due to flooding, another failed catastrophically)  
**1** Pony Bottle Snap (still missing the original somewhere)

We also had

**11** Regs & Pony Regs Dunked (Rinsed with either loose Dust Cap or No Dustcap)

**\*Majority of these were found, not turned into us\* =**[

**4** Pony Regs Flooded in the GOT (Diver error, I'll even vouch for one =P)

- With that being said, we did find one Pony bottle with the bottom Split ring completely bent out of shape and the Snap missing. We found it when opening on Saturday, so it happened sometime before then. I find it a little hard to believe that the split ring became pried open and put away without noticing. If you had found a loose snap, please let Dive Ops know.

***This is also a friendly reminder to check every part of your equipment before your dive and after you end each dive.***

A loose snap can slip into the GOT drain and ruin the Fan Blades on our pumps. That is a very expensive fix! We still haven't found that snap and might be in for a nasty surprise come next maintenance. I'd like to think that it was found attached to the BC and put somewhere though.

- With Regulators, I think the issue with Regs flooding unnoticed is they are being soaked with Dust Caps out of place or not fully screwed down. Even then, no Dust Cap is truly water tight. Since our Sherwood Brut Regulators are environmentally sealed, there is no true value with soaking them.

**If I could ask everyone to just dunk the regs for a few seconds at most, perhaps that may solve our issue.**

I'm in the process of servicing our regs and I'm finding anywhere from droplets to huge amounts of water in each and every one.

- We had a Button SPG fail on **Saturday August 2<sup>nd</sup>**. The bottle was left on and sitting in place for about 10mins. At some time after there was a small but loud pop. The plastic face had ejected but strangely enough, by design I guess, no air leaked out of the broken SPG. Below is the picture. I created the cut myself to get the face out, but otherwise I found it bent like a taco. No clue why it happened, just thought I would share. Everyone turning their tank on was holding their SPG's far away that day.



## Shark Shallows & Surface Supply

- We're scheduled to break ground on **Shark Shallows September 1<sup>st</sup>**. With that in mind, Dive Ops is going to start pushing for everyone to complete Surface Supply Training before completion of Shark Shallows in Spring Break. Ideally, we would want the entire team rated and comfortable with Surface Supply before Shark Shallows opens. Once it opens, we could have a heavy maintenance schedule on our hands. Especially with Summer close by.

This doesn't give us a lot of time to accomplish that, with the whole Team in mind.

The Practical of Surface Supply includes:

- Topside Tending
- Emergency Ascent on RASS \***Carolina Seas**\*
- Diver Extraction

Due to Dive Shows and Cross Contamination issues, we are unable to get a full team through the Surface Supply Practical in one day.

There's also scheduling with the Aquarists who own the exhibits we'll be diving in.

So even after the Written Tests are completed, this will still take a lot of time.

To speed this process along, I'd like to ask that everyone work on completing the Surface Supply Test ASAP, so we can focus on scheduling exhibit dives.



*Nurse shark in the cup coral*

## Dive Compressor

- The GOT Filtration room is being renovated and because of that we may be getting some bad fumes wafting around dive world. As such the Dive Compressor may be turned off to prevent bad air from circulating into our tanks.  
With that in mind, remember to practice good Fill Station Techniques. If you smell something **\*off\*** in your tanks or near Food Prep, let Dive Ops know so we can Turn off the Compressor.  
Do not use any tanks that have an off odor in them. Set those aside and report them to Dive Ops.
- Additionally, please make sure your tanks are filling completely before capping them. The last couple times we turned the compressor off, tanks were capped and re-racked at 2000psi without anyone noticing. This was because our tanks were low.  
The two teams who stumbled upon that the next day had to exchange nearly every tank from the GOT with the ones in the Dive Hallway. And that was after they had plugged into each and every single one.  
Help your Teammates out.



Cheers,  
- RY

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