

Dive Times

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Volume 39

February 2, 2006

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Equipment Specialty Course

There is still time to sign up for this specialty class that can count towards your Master Scuba Diver certification. The equipment class covers the basics of equipment design, care and simple repairs. We do not teach you how to open your regulator and rebuild it, but we will teach you why it is important to have it serviced according to your manufacturers suggestions. You will learn to repair tears in your wetsuit as well as maintenance on drysuits and a whole host of other information to help you care for your dive equipment.

For more information follow the link below:

<http://www.padi.com/english/common/courses/rec/continue/equipmentspecialist.asp>

It's Time to Ice Dive

The first ice diving certification class is scheduled for Saturday February 18th & 19th. Of course you can also do the ice experience which is doing a great under ice dive with Dan or another Instructor. This may be the only chance we have this season to ice dive given the weather and ice conditions so don't wait for the next scheduled set of dives.

Ice class meets here at the store at 8am Saturday for the classroom portion in which you dive plan, go over safety equipment, signals, hazards and emergency procedures. Then we're off to the lake where you will learn first hand about cutting a hole in the ice to dive through and then you will set up the house and get ready to dive.

What you need to do: Come in and sign up for the class or your experience. Costs for class are due at sign up, \$150 for the ice cert and \$50 for the ice experience. Equipment rental is available at a special rate if needed. If you are using your own equipment make sure it is current on maintenance and tuned to or made for cold water diving. Remember you can dive wet or dry, but you must be drysuit certified to rent a drysuit. We can get you in a drysuit for the dive if you come and do the **drysuit classroom and pool portion of the class**. Make sure you have a lunch both days and we will provide something warm for your insides to drink. Looking forward to seeing you on the ice! CALL US 444-3467

Prerequisites:

Must be 18 years old

Must be a certified diver

Must be Advanced certified to do Ice Class Certification

Must want to have FUN!!!!



Have Your Equipment Serviced

Don't forget, before you pack your equipment to take on that warm water vacation you should have its yearly service done according to your manufacturer's recommendations. Our customers should be getting yearly reminders when it gets close to the service date of their regulators and BCD's. In fact many manufacturers require you to keep your yearly service up or you may void your warranty. Don't put it off, many people think because they haven't used their equipment or used it much that everything will be okay. Not true, many parts inside of your regulator or BCD inflator are prone to drying out and cracking. Without yearly service this means regulator free flows and the possibility of stuck inflators. Upgrade kits are often put into regulators when available at no charge with Scubapro regulators as part of your warranty service. You don't want your warm water diving to be interrupted for even a minute due to equipment problems.



Polar Plunge

This was our third year as proud sponsors and safety divers for the Bemidji Jaycees Polar Plunge to help raise money for the Special Olympics. This year's plunge was well attended and organized. Plungers jumped for a minimum of a \$50 donation or after collecting at least \$50 in pledges. Dan was joined by Tim Skime of Roseau and Greg Moen of Bemidji, both Divemasters for our store and their first time as helpers for this event. There were two divers that were certified this past year that took the plunge, Gretchin Bonik and Anjali "Beano" Phukan, one of Greg Moen's 8th graders, who were brave enough to hit the icy water to help the Special Olympics. Thanks to all who participated!

Drysuit Class = Fun

Photos by Tim Skime



Drysuit class was a great learning experience for beginning and seasoned divers alike. Class participants included open water students that wanted to do their open water dives in drysuits, advanced divers getting ready for ice diving in a drysuit, and Divemasters getting the feel of a drysuit so they could offer their experiences to other divers when asked about drysuit diving. After all, diving is a continual learning experience, no matter how many dives you've logged!

The common question that is asked about drysuit diving is: **What does it feel like to dive in a drysuit?** The first answer that comes to my mind is it's warmer than a wetsuit, second is that you need to learn your buoyancy control all over again. Because you are adding air to your drysuit and not to your BCD to control your buoyancy you feel the air moving around inside of the drysuit. You learn the feeling of the air moving toward your feet and how to control it should the air actually make it there and cause you to start making a feet first ascent.

Oh....one or two words of advice remember the old question about peeing in your wetsuit....I'd highly suggest you remember your diving dry when that thought crosses your mind, you may have a lot of questions to answer when you take that drysuit off!

The next drysuit class is scheduled for **May 9th & 11th**, **why not join us for a great learning experience, which will also count towards your Master Scuba Diver certification .**



Advanced Open Water Dates for ELY

Summer is right around the corner and it's time to enjoy the hospitality of Alan and Marcy from A & W Diving in Ely. We will enjoy three trips to Ely this summer to do Advanced Open water class or for you to just enjoy some gorgeous freshwater diving on beautiful Burnside Lake with its clear water and hard sand bottom. We'll dive around Indian Island and look at the treasures left over the years on the bottom of the lake. We'll do a deep dive off of a rock wall that has a vertical drop of 50-60 ft right to the bottom as well as a new dive spot that Dan aptly named "Alan's Place". At this spot you will be amazed by the giant boulders leaning against each other to create a swim through.

You are responsible for making any hotel reservations or camping arrangements, but I can help with ideas as well as the Chamber of Commerce website from Ely at www.ely.org where you can find a list of resorts and hotels/motels. Once you pick your dates we highly suggest making your reservations quickly as rooms in Ely fill quickly in the summer months. Now is not too early to make reservations.

Dates for Ely

June 24 & 25
July 22 & 23
August 19 & 20

Spring 2006 Course Schedule

Discover Snorkeling (\$15)

February 25.....Open
April 8.....Open

Discover Scuba (\$30)

February 25.....Open
April 8.....Open

Open Water Classes (\$325)

February 3-5.....6 openings
February 7, 14, 21, 28, March 7.Open

March 3-5.....4 openings
April 26, May 3, 10, 17, 24.....Open
May 26-28.....Open
June 2-4.....Open
June 10-11.....Open
July 15-16.....Open

Specialty Courses

Equipment Specialty (\$99 also see info below)

February 11.....Open

April 1.....Open

Ice Diver Specialty(\$150 also see info above)

February 18 & 19

March 11 & 12

Dry Suit Diver Specialty (\$150 also see info below)

May 9 & 11 Classroom & Pool...Open

May13 (Open water dives).... ..Open

Emergency First Response First Aid and CPR (\$25 also see info below)

March 21, 23.....Open

April 18, 20.....Open

Emergency First Response First Aid & CPR

The Emergency First Response First Aid and CPR course is a non-diving basic first aid and CPR course which includes Automated External Defibrillator training and can be modified to include child and infant basic life support. There is also a component for First Aid in the Workplace which is what our course will focus on. For more information follow the link below:

<http://www.padi.com/english/common/courses/rec/continue/efrc.asp>