



E-SLATE

American Academy of Underwater Sciences (AAUS)

EDITOR'S NOTE – November 2009

Welcome to the November issue of the E-Slate. AAUS is now accepting nominations for the 2009 Scientific Diving Lifetime Achievement Award. There are two important equipment recalls, be sure to read those and pass them on to others. Do not miss a chance to support the AAUS scholarship fund and win a brand new VR Technology – VR3 Trimix Dive Computer, enter online at www.aaus.org today!

The E-Slate is a newsletter from and for the scientific dive community. We welcome news, announcements, job positions, new citations, and images with captions of underwater work. Please email submissions to aaus@disl.org. Current and past issues of the E-Slate are available at www.aaus.org.

NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Win a New VR Technology - VR3 Trimix Dive Computer

Kevin Gurr, VR Technology Ltd., has graciously donated another VR3 trimix dive computer for the third year in a row. This is the most advanced trimix dive computer on the market today. It is set up for use with air, nitrox, heliox and trimix. It is suitable for both open circuit as well as closed circuit. This computer has a retail value of over \$ 2000. All proceeds will go to the AAUS Scholarship fund. Ticket sales will be limited to 300 tickets. Tickets cost \$10.00. They will only be issued after the payment is received by the AAUS DISL office. The drawing will take place on December 2, 2009. Please do not miss this chance to support your AAUS student scholarship and at the same time get a chance to win this fantastic computer.

The deadline for ticket sales is midnight December 1, 2009. To enter visit:

<https://web.memberclicks.com/mc/quickForm/viewForm.do?orgId=aaus&formId=51518>. For more information on the computer visit:

<http://www.vr3.co.uk/vr3/main.php?content=intro>.

Call for Nominations for 2009 AAUS Award

The AAUS Scientific Diving Lifetime Achievement Award may be presented annually to an individual from the scientific diving community who has made a significant contribution in advancing underwater science and technology. The award is open to anyone in the scientific diving community. Nominations are provided by the general membership and

voted on by the past-presidents of AAUS and past award recipients. Current BOD Members are not eligible during their term of office.

Past Recipients:

Jimmy Stewart - 2008
Eugenie Clark, Ph.D. - 2007
Andreas B. (Andy) Rechnitzer, Ph.D. - 2006 (*In memoriam*)
John (Jack) E. Randall, Ph.D. - 2005
Sylvia A. Earle, Ph.D. - 2004
Mark and Diane Littler, Ph.D. - 2003 Co-Recipients
Paul K. Dayton, Ph.D. - 2002
Wheeler J. North, Ph.D. - 2001 (*In memoriam*)
J. Morgan Wells, Ph.D. - 2000

Class of 2009 – Eligible nominees

Bill Hamner
Gerald Wellington
Walter Jaap
Charles Birkeland
Dick Cooper
Peter Glynn
Michael S. Foster
Alina Szmant
Bill High
George Simmons
Phil Nuytten
John Knauss
Stan Riggs
John Duffy
Lee Somers
Bill Fife (*In memoriam*)
Dick Bell
Glen Egstrom
Lloyd Austin
Jim Griffin

Please provide complete information for each new nominee.

2009 AWARD NOMINEE:

NAME:

ADDRESS:

PHONE:

E-MAIL:

JPEG PICTURE, IF AVAILABLE:

NOMINATOR:

CANDIDATE BIO:

AWARD JUSTIFICATION:

SEND AS AN ATTACHMENT

Please respond with your nominations to Alma, aaus@www.disl.org, by November 10, 2009.

Ocean Acidification Film

The Natural Resources Defense Council's (NRDC) film on ocean acidification, ACID TEST, is now available to view at <http://www.acidtestmovie.com>.

AAUS Fall BOD Meeting

The Fall AAUS Board of Directors meeting will be held in conjunction with the Diving Equipment and Marketing Association (DEMA) meeting in Orlando, FL. The BOD will meet on Thursday, November 5, 2009, from 1000-1800, at the Metropolitan Hotel in Orlando.

New Student Competition - AAUS Symposium 2010

A new competition - the best student presentation - will be initiated at the 2010 symposium. Recognition will include both certificates and cash awards (\$250 for first place with an optional \$100 for honorable mention, if appropriate).

Call for Abstracts – AAUS 2010

Abstracts for the upcoming AAUS symposium can be submitted until January 15, 2010. As is the custom for AAUS, full papers are required for all presentations. These will be published in the ISBN-indexed proceedings of the meeting. It is expected that some papers will be brief (minimum around 2000 words) and may focus on the diving methods of central interest to the Academy to avoid compromising the ability to publish research data in peer-reviewed journals. For more information or to submit abstracts (150-250 words) visit <http://www.aaus.org>.

AAUS Scientific Diving Internship

The Our World-Underwater Scholarship has collaborated with AAUS to create a new scientific diving internship. This internship will provide undergraduates with the experience and opportunities necessary for a future in science, diving for research, or scientific diving-related fields. Intern applicants can be students from colleges and universities with an interest in science and diving. The program runs primarily from mid-May through August and will include training at one of several AAUS organizational member sites. This training will give the intern the necessary dive qualifications to allow participation on research projects requiring scientific diving and introduce the intern to careers that utilize scientific diving as a tool. Once trained as an AAUS-recognized diver-in-training, interns will participate in underwater field-work at one or more locations and research facilities associated with AAUS. The internship will be supported by funding for travel to/from site, room, board, and other internship-related expenses. For more information visit:

<http://www.owuscholarship.org/internships/current.aspx>

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Women Divers Hall of Fame Scholarships

The Women Divers Hall of Fame (WDHOF) is offering four scholarships and nine training grants in 2010. WDHOF offers scholarships and training grants in diverse fields such as marine science, marine archeology, technical diving, hyperbaric medicine and handicapped diving. WDHOF scholarships are available to women and men of all ages to pursue higher education and training, further their career goals, and seek out opportunities in the aquatic and diving-related industries. Applications can be downloaded from the WDHOF website: www.wdhof.org. All applications for 2010 must be submitted electronically by November 15, 2009. Applicants may apply for only one scholarship or grant.

Our World Underwater Scholarship

The Our World Underwater Rolex Scholarships provide a hands-on introduction to underwater and other aquatic-related endeavors for young persons with an interest in underwater-related disciplines. The scholarships provide a year of experiences and rare opportunities to meet and work with many highly respected individuals and organizations. The deadline for applications is December 31, 2009. For more information visit: <http://www.owuscholarship.org>.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Benthic Ecology Meeting

The 39th annual Benthic Ecology meeting will be held at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington on March 10-13. Call for papers and Internet registration begins November 6, 2009. Early registration and abstract submission ends January 15, 2010. For more information visit: <http://www.benthicecologymeeting2010.org/>.

Diving for Science - 2010 AAUS Symposium

The 29th AAUS scientific symposium will be held at the Ala Moana Hotel, March 25-27, in Waikiki, HI. Mention AAUS when making reservations to get a reduced room rate of \$119 (available March 22-29). If hotel rates decrease before the symposium, the AAUS rate will also decrease. If the hotel rate increases, the AAUS fee is locked in at \$119. All symposium meetings including the DSO meeting and business meeting will be held at the hotel. The banquet will be at the Waikiki Aquarium (<http://www.waquarium.org>). Call 808-955-4811 or visit <http://www.alamoanahotelhonolulu.com/> for reservations.

2010 Diving for Science Symposium Workshops

Monday, March 22, 2010

University of Hawaii Diver Training Methods - \$50.00

Oceanic Regulator Repair Workshop - \$150.00

Tuesday, March 23, 2010

PSI Visual Cylinder Inspector Training - \$250.00
(Refresher - \$175.00)
Digital Photography for Scientific Divers - \$100.00
(includes 2-tank dive)

Wednesday, March 24, 2010

PSI Oxygen Cleaning and Cylinder Valve Repair
Technician - \$175
Identification and Study of Coral Disease - \$100.00
(includes 2-tank dive)
Towboarding techniques for Science - \$100.00 (includes
tows over shallow reef)

For more information on workshops visit:

<http://www.aaus.org/mc/page.do?sitePageId=94127&orgId=aaus>.

Thursday, March 25, 2010 - AAUS General Membership and
Annual Business Meeting

* Diving Activity - requires current AAUS Scientific Diver
LOR and UH Visiting Diver Forms

EQUIPMENT RECALLS

SI Tech Diving Recall - Air Hose for Dry Suits

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with SI Tech AB, has announced a voluntary recall of SI Tech AB diving air hoses for dry suits. Consumers should stop using recalled products immediately unless otherwise instructed. About 65,000 of the recalled units were sold at diving equipment retailers and distributors nationwide from July 2006 through February 2009. The hose contains an insert that can dislodge during diving and restrict air flow to the diver, posing a drowning hazard. SI Tech has received six reports of hose inserts dislodging, including one that was involved in the death of a diver in Los Angeles, Calif. The batch code is stamped on the threaded metal end of the hose. They were sold with dry suits and also sold separately. Contact SI Tech for a list of batch codes included in this recall or visit the firm's Web site, www.sitech.se. For additional information, contact SI Tech at (877) 348-3529 anytime, visit www.sitech.se, or email the firm at recall@sitech.se.

To see this recall on CPSC's web site, including pictures of the recalled product, please go to www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml10/10010.html.

Halcyon Diving Equipment Recall

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with Halcyon Manufacturing Inc., has announced a voluntary recall of certain Halcyon Diving Equipment. About 20,300 of these units were sold at diving equipment

retailers and distributors from January 2006 through December 2008 for between \$350 and \$450 for the buoyancy compensator devices (BCDs) and between \$50 and \$275 for the inflatable devices. The over pressure valves (OPVs) in the diving equipment could fail allowing the buoyancy compensator devices (BCDs) and the diver lift inflatable devices to leak, posing a drowning hazard to divers. No incidents or injuries have been reported. This recall involves Halcyon diving equipment including the Halcyon Explorer, Eclipse, CCR35, Evolve and Pioneer Buoyancy Compensator Devices (BCDs) and Halcyon Surface Marker Buoys (SMBs), Lift Bags, Diver Alert Markers (DAMs) Surf Shuttle and Diver Lift Raft Inflatable Devices. 'Halcyon' is printed on the diving equipment. Consumers should immediately stop using recalled diving equipment and return it to an authorized Halcyon distributor or dealer for a free inspection and, if necessary, free replacement of the overpressure valve spring. For more information, contact Halcyon at (800) 425-2966 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET Monday through Friday, visit the firm's Web site at www.halcyon.net/opv-recall, or email the firm at techservices@halcyon.net.

To see this recall on CPSC's web site, including pictures of the recalled product, please go to:

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml10/10002.html>.

The mission of the American Academy of Underwater Sciences is to facilitate the development of safe and productive scientific divers through education, research, advocacy, and the advancement of standards for scientific diving practices, certifications, & operations.

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