



E-SLATE

American Academy of Underwater Sciences (AAUS)

EDITORIAL NOTE – July 2013

Welcome to the July E-Slate! In this issue registration continues for the 2013 AAUS/EDSP International Science Diving Symposium and new job postings are announced. We welcome news, announcements, job postings, and images of underwater work at aaus@disl.org. Current and past issues of the E-Slate are available at www.aaus.org.

NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Obituary – Dr. Hans Hass



Dr. Hans Hass passed away on Sunday morning, June 16, 2013. Hans was 94 years old. Hans Hass was an Austrian diving pioneer known mainly for his documentaries about sharks, pioneering research/development of the "aqualung" rebreather, his energon theory, and his commitment to the protection of

the environment. On his homepage www.hans-hass.de is a special online-guestbook to leave a condolence message for all those of you who may wish to pay your last respects, thoughts and appreciations.

First Ever Underwater University Lectures

Science Daily - May 17, 2013

These ground-breaking underwater marine biology lectures were the first of their kind, adding to the teaching, educational and learning experience during dives on tropical coral reef systems. The lectures were held during the annual field trip to the Wakatobi Marine National Park in Indonesia, organized by the University's School of Biological Sciences for its students.

For the underwater lectures, Professor David Smith used specialized audio equipment so he could talk to students underwater, explaining exactly what they were seeing as they were seeing it. "It was a fantastic experience as I was able to use the power of observation like never before," explained Professor Smith

Using a University of Essex special teaching grant, Professor Smith was able to buy an audio system which, to date, has never been used for formal lecturing and is only used by TV presenters and some professional divers.

Professor Smith wore a full face mask which included a microphone and the students wore headsets so they could hear him talk. A hydrophone - an underwater microphone - was then positioned in the water which was linked to a control box and recorder on a boat.

Full article available at

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2013/05/130517085722.htm>

Papahānaumokuākea Discoveries

Huffington Post – June 20, 2013

Scientists made new discoveries while recently diving to deep coral reefs in the remote atolls of northwest Hawaii.

The Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument says a research expedition returned last week with specimens of previously unknown deep-water algae. The scientists also brought back the first recorded specimens of black coral from Johnston Atoll.



The researchers visited Nihoa, Mokumanamana, French Frigate Shoals and Laysan Island. They later went to the Johnston Atoll National Wildlife Refuge. Scientists collected fish, coral and algae samples for genetic analysis and searched for invasive alien species. At Johnston Atoll, they conducted archaeological surveys of the Howland, a whaling ship wreck from the late 1800s.

The monument said Monday the expedition included 26 days of diving to deep coral reefs more than 200 feet below the surface.

Full article available at

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/06/20/papahanaumokuakea-discoveries-hawaii-algae-coral_n_3473432.html

UPCOMING EVENTS

AAUS/ESDP 2013 Joint International Scientific Diving Symposium

The 2013 AAUS/EDSP Symposium will be held in Curaçao October 23-27. The Santa Barbara beach resort will serve as the symposium hotel. **Please register and reserve lodging early to ensure availability.** Events include pre-conference workshops, the Diving Safety Officer meeting, AAUS business meeting and three days of science talks. Planned workshops include:

- DAN FA Pro Instructor Certification
- Coral Reef Species ID/Reef Check Methodology
- Free Diving

Also, this year's mechanism to celebrate achievements of scientific diving programs is in the form of a poster. Join your colleagues in this event and take part in the celebration of scientific diving programs and the advancement of underwater science.

There will be boat and shore diving opportunities, Curasub rides, a post-symposium field trip to Bonaire as well as our annual Bubble Breaker welcome reception and fundraiser. For more information, registration, a poster template and hotel information, visit www.aaus.org/annual_symposium or contact the AAUS office.

DEMA 2013

The Diving Equipment and Marketing Association will hold its annual show November 06-09 at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, FL. More information at <http://www.demashow.com>.

CSU/MLML Research Diving Course

A summer AAUS certification course is being offered August 05-09 and 12-18, 2013 at Moss Landing Marine Laboratories. The course includes AAUS and CA Reefcheck training and certification and six field days in Big Sur. For more details contact Diana Steller at dsteller@mlml.calstate.edu.

Santa Barbara Film Festival

Santa Barbara Underwater Film Festival will be presenting a Tribute to Ernie Brooks on September 14 at 7:00 PM featuring underwater photography and films. The program will be a benefit to raise funds for the Historical Diving Society USA and the Santa Barbara Maritime Museum. More information at <http://www.aaus.org/announcements#SBfilm>

JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

Full information and application instructions for the following jobs can be found at www.aaus.org/job_board

Florida State University

Marine Operations Manager (and Diving Safety Officer)

South Carolina Aquarium

Assistant Dive Safety Officer

University of Hawaii at Manoa

Coral Reef Biogeochemist

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.

American Academy of Underwater Sciences
101 Bienville Boulevard, Dauphin Island, AL 36528
Tel 251 591 3775 Fax 251-861-7540
aaus@disl.org www.aaus.org

Editor: Heather Fletcher - aaus@disl.org

Editorial Board: Michael Dardeau,
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