



TOPSIDE



June 2004

The NDP Newsletter for NOAA Diving Supervisors and Divers

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TRAINING SCHEDULE

Our August Refresher training is still open, but September Working Diver Course is full; however we are still taking names for the standby list. Take the time now to review your complement and see if you will need to add divers either now or in the future. It is not too early to start looking ahead to the January class for slots, it has already started to fill.

The NDC will be following all deadlines for form submittal, we always have a long waiting list of applicants for all of our classes.

Diver candidates must submit the following forms to Laurie Barber by July 16, 2004 for the Refresher Class and August 8, 2004 for the September Working Diver Class:

- NOAA Diving Training Request & Authorization
- Standardized Equipment Measurement form.
- **Completed** NOAA Diving Physical package, (there are new forms for NOAA Corps officers and Wage Marine employees DD-2808, 2807-1)

All of these forms are available at the following web address: www.ndc.noaa.gov/forms.html. Fax or mail completed form to NDC.

Course schedules through January 2005:

Aug 16 - 19	Diver Refresher	Seattle
Sep 13 - Oct 01	Working Diver	Seattle
Sep 27 - Oct 01	Divemaster	Seattle
Jan 10 - Jan 28	Working Diver	Key West



NEW CHAMBER

NDC is nearing completion on its first containerized hyperbaric chamber system. Once it is completed, the Dive Center will be able to readily support advanced and/or remote dive operations. The completed unit is scheduled to be placed on the new NOAA vessel HI' IALAKAI next month to help them in their new mission.




TRI AIR TEST KITS

TRI dive compressor test kits will be mailed out the week of **July 19th**. **If this time frame does not work for your unit or ship, please contact Laurie Barber to schedule a different testing date.** NOAA Diving Regulations require the testing of all dive air compressors every 6 months.



NEW WORKING DIVERS

Congratulations to our the 16 new working divers who graduated on May 28th, 2004. Back row L-to-R , Brad Delinski; Kevin Barry; Jesse Duncan; LT Dan Price; Steve Basset; ENS Paul Householder; Jeff Gearhart; ENS Leah Harman; Front Row L-to-R; ENS Michael Davidson; Tim Siwec; Amanda McKinney; LT Dave Zezula; Steve Hudziak; Keith Longly; Julie Oberg; Kinsey Frick. Please join us in welcoming these new divers to NOAA! 



NEW DIVEMASTERS

Congratulations to our newest Divemasters who graduated as well on May 28th, 2004. They are as follows, back row, L-to-R; Hans Van Tilburg; Brett Sposito; ENS Jay Lomnickey; Adam Jenkins; Chad Schultz; Joe Goulet; Ryan Bailey; LT Todd Haupt; and David Sylvester. Please join us in welcoming these new DMs to NOAA.



SEAL IN DISTRESS

On June 8, 2004, NOAA divers Aaron King and Tom Laidig helped NMFS enforcement and California Fish and Game wardens search for a knife that had fallen out of a California sea lion. Someone had stabbed the sea lion, leaving the knife behind. Tourists watched the sea lion dislodge the knife near the Santa Cruz wharf. Aaron and Tom donned scuba gear and conducted a circular search pattern (using a 30 m line tied to a stake) in the area where the knife was last seen in an attempt to recover the knife for forensic analysis. They searched an area of 2,290 m², but were unsuccessful in locating the knife. The knife may have had enough buoyancy to float or to sink slowly, thus allowing it to leave the search area. As of this writing, the knife has not been located and the case will probably be closed.

