

TOPSIDE



May 2004

The NDP Newsletter for NOAA Diving Supervisors and Divers

Director - David Dinsmore, (206) 526-6705, dave.dinsmore@noaa.gov
 Operations Manager - ENS Eric Johnson, (206) 526-6460, eric.t.johnson@noaa.gov
 Equipment Manager - Steve Urick, (206) 526-6223, steve.urick@noaa.gov
 SEP Technician - Bill Gordon, (206) 526-6450, bill.j.gordon@noaa.gov
 SEP Technician - Lisa Glover, (206) 526-6446, lisa.glover@noaa.gov
 Budget/Program Analyst - Laurie Barber, (206) 526-6695, laurie.barber@noaa.gov
 Office Automation Secretary - Sondra Huber, (206) 526-6623, sondra.huber@noaa.gov
 E-mail fax numbers: Lisa Glover (206)529-2757 Steve Urick (206)-529-2758, and Eric Johnson (206)529-2759.

Fax - 206-526-6506
 Web Site Address - <http://www.ndc.noaa.gov>
 Mailing Address - NOAA Diving Center
 7600 Sand Point Way NE
 Seattle, WA 98115-0070

TRAINING SCHEDULE

We currently have room in the August Refresher class and the September Working Diver Course. 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,
- **Completed** NOAA Diving Physical package, (there are new forms for NOAA Corps officers and Wage Marine employees DD-2808, 2807-1)
- Standardized Equipment Measurement.


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 September 2004:

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




SCIENTIFIC DIVER EXAM 1.2b

Scientific diver exam 1.2b is available to all UDSs. Please destroy all other versions you may have. Previous exams should NOT be used as a study aid for scientific diver candidates. Contact NDC if you need a copy of exam 1.2 b, or if you need any other testing materials. 

DIVEMASTER NEEDED

On June 2 - 9, 2004, Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary will be conducting benthic and fish surveys in kelp forests along the California Big Sur coastline aboard the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary's R/V SHEARWATER vessel. The mission is in need of a NOAA certified Divemaster to oversee dive operations.

The Divemaster will be responsible for dive operations, but will not be required to dive. The mission will begin and end in Monterey Harbor, and there will be an opportunity rotation of DMs once or twice during the eight day trip. Contact Steve Lonhart, (831)-647-4222 or ENS Eric Johnson at the NDC if able to assist. 

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.



IN MEMORIAM

Michael Xavier Bergin

Michael X. Bergin, 67, currently of Summerland Key, Florida and formerly of Seattle, Washington passed away on April 17, 2004.

Michael was born on January 10, 1937 in Miami Beach, FL the son of Dr. Cecil and Blanche (Richardson) Bergin. On August 15, 1987 he married Dorothy Walsh Bergin in Seattle, WA.

Michael was an alumnus of St. Patrick's Elementary, St. Leo's Prep., Miami Tech H.S., Miami-Dade Community College, University of Miami, and Florida Atlantic University.

He spent 28 years of his career as a General Engineer at Pacific Marine Center, Seattle, WA, the duty station and Pacific headquarters for the research fleet of the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration. He served as Port Engineer for various ships of the NOAA Fleet, but especially for the NOAA ships Miller Freeman, John N. Cobb, Murre II and Oregon I in Alaska, Washington and Oregon. His tenure also included serving as Unit Dive Officer, a term on the National Diving Safety Board, and as an on-call volunteer hyperbaric chamber operator at Virginia Mason Hospital.

Prior to joining NOAA, he was associated with the marine industry in various capacities in Florida, the Caribbean, Chile and Antarctica (Palmer Station).

Memberships included the Society of Port Engineers (Puget Sound), the Coast & Geodetic Survey Society, and the Puget Sound Antique Machinery & Steam Association. Interests and hobbies included marine history, machine work, and model building. He was an avid fan of Gilbert & Sullivan and opera.

Surviving Michael are his wife Dorothy; two brothers, Padraic of Miami and Timothy (Sandra) of Ramrod Key, FL; two sisters, Cecily (Derren) Wirsching-Droop of Summerland Key, FL and Denise of Denver, CO; eight nieces & nephews and a grand niece and nephew.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to The Children's Fund for The Society of Port Engineers, P.O. Box 84423, Seattle, WA 98124 or The Coast & Geodetic Survey Society Scholarship Fund, c/o Larry Mordock, Pacific Marine Center, NOAA, 1801 Fairview Ave. E., Seattle, WA 98102



OFFICER DIVE PAY

NOAA Corps Officers are paid dive pay the month following the diving activity if a dive log has been submitted and the diver has current dive orders on file with payroll and also with the Diving Center. Commissioned officer dive pay (codpay) is submitted to payroll the last workday before the 15th day of the month for the previous month's diving activity. If a dive log is not received by the Diving Center before the 5th of the month for the previous month's activity then dive pay will not be paid for that month. Late logs submitted by fax or mail will be added to subsequent codpay reports and back dive pay will be received. Online logs submitted after the 15th of the month for the previous month's activity will also result in non-payment. If you submit a late online dive log then you also need to send an e-mail to Sondra Huber (sondra.huber@noaa.gov) explaining the situation. She will add your name to the next codpay report for the month that was missed. If, for any reason, you have not been paid dive pay and you are eligible to receive it, please contact Sondra Huber with the pertinent details and she'll help resolve the issue.



NDC PERSONNEL CHANGE

The NOAA Diving Center would like to welcome **ENS Eric Johnson** to the NOAA Diving Program. Eric will be the new Executive Officer/Dive Operations Manager at NDC. He has been a diver since 1997, and previously has worked as a volunteer diver at the National Aquarium in Baltimore MD. Eric will serve as the UDS for the NOAA vessels as well as serving as the point of contact for certification physical examination reviews and editor of the TOPSIDE newsletter.

Welcome Aboard!



ENS Eric Johnson