



TOPSIDE



Volume 4, Number 7

The NDP Newsletter for NOAA Diving Supervisors and Divers

December 2003

Director - David Dinsmore, (206) 526-6705, dave.dinsmore@noaa.gov

Operations Manager - LCDR Mike Lemon, (206) 526-6460, michael.lemon@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 Mike Lemon (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

Requests are being accepted for the **Diver Refresher** course in March and the **Working Diver / Divemaster** courses in May. Please contact Laurie Barber for enrollment or if you have any questions about requirements. Diver candidates must submit the following items to Laurie Barber by March 01, 2004 for the Diver Refresher class and April 19, 2004 for the Working Diver / Divemaster Class: NOAA Diving Training Request and Authorization form, **completed** NOAA diving physical, and Standardized Equipment Measurement form. All of these forms are available at the following web address: www.ndc.noaa.gov/forms.html. Completed forms can be mailed or faxed to the Diving Center. Please contact Laurie with any questions about class enrollment requirements.

Course schedules through September 2004:

Jan 12 - 30	Working Diver	Key West
Jan 26 - 30	Divemaster	Key West
Mar 16 - 19	Diver Refresher	Seattle
May 10 - 28	Working Diver	Seattle
May 24 - 28	Divemaster	Seattle
Sep 13 - Oct 01	Working Diver	Seattle
Sep 27 - Oct 01	Divemaster	Seattle



NDSB MEETING NOTES

Members of the NOAA Diving Safety Board met in Seattle Nov 03—06. The complete meeting minutes are attached to this issue of TOPSIDE. The following issues were noteworthy:

- A diving incident was reviewed concerning the pairing of scientific divers and working divers. The conclusion of the NDSB was that scientific divers are not authorized to participate in a working dive in any capacity (e.g., assist or serve as a dive buddy). Scientific divers may only complete underwater tasks consisting of observation and data collection.
- If NOAA divers plan to dive outside the US they must submit a dive plan, including a dive accident management plan, to their UDS for approval before departure.
- All Luxfer scuba cylinders manufactured from the early 1970's to June, 1988, using an older type 6351 aluminum alloy, must be removed from service. If the cylinder is returned to Luxfer a \$50.00 voucher will be offered toward purchase of a new cylinder until 31 December 2003. In lieu of returning the cylinder before December 31, a return authorization number from Luxfer will allow one-and-a-half years to return the cylinder after the December cutoff date. This action is mandatory for NOAA cylinders. If your unit has any of these cylinders, contact Steve Urick at NDC.



DMT COURSES

The NOAA Diving Program sponsored a Diver Medical Technician Preparatory (DMT Prep) Course from December 1st - 6th, 2003, and a Diver Medical Technician (DMT) Advanced course from December 8th - 13th, 2003, at the NOAA Diving Center in Seattle. Instructors included NOAA and PHS medical staff personnel, and visiting guest lecturers from Madigan Army Medical Center and Bremerton Naval Hospital. Both courses included classroom and practical sessions. Sixteen graduated from the DMT Prep and twenty-one from the DMT course.

The DMT Prep Course is modeled after the STCW Medical-Person-In-Charge (MPIC) curriculum for shipboard medical providers, with the additional objective of preparing NOAA divers to meet the prerequisites for Diving Medical Technician (DMT). Course work for DMT Prep included sessions in human anatomy, patient assessment, bleeding and shock, abdominal, face, throat, and eye injuries, sterile technique, cardiovascular and respiratory emergencies and airway management, infectious disease, dehydration and environmental emergencies, basic life support (CPR) certification, pharmacology, pain management, and spinal injuries. Congratulations to the graduates of the Diver Medical Technician Prep course: Katherine Call, Sean Cimilluca, Natasha Davis, Bill Gordon, Andrew Hall, Russell Haner, Mike Hopkins, Kristofer Mackie, Roger Mays, Mark Miller, Seung Suk, Kevin Sund, James Thomason, Frank Wood, Larry Phillips, and Edmund Wernicke.

The NOAA Diver Medical Technician (DMT) Advanced course was designed to convey pertinent medical and operational information to NOAA divers who may be required to evaluate and treat diving accidents. Students received substantial theoretical and practical instruction in patient examination, recognition of decompression sickness and arterial gas embolism, field management of diving casualties, evacuation and treatment of diving accident victims, hyperbaric chambers and treatment procedures, and hyperbaric oxygen therapy.



DMT ADVANCED COURSE



Congratulations to the December graduates of the Diver Medical Technician—Advanced course: Front Row, L to R: Bill Gordon (instructor), Phil White, Noah Lawrence-Slavas, Andrew Hall, Natasha Davis, Jeffrey Shoup, Steve Urick (instructor). Middle Row, L to R: Dave Dinsmore (instructor), Katherine Call, Kristofer Mackie, Seung Suk, Jeff Taylor, Kevin Sund, Eric Johnson, Frank Wood, Ed Wernicke. Back Row, L to R: Russell Haner, Sean Cimilluca, Mark O'Connor, Charles Yoos, Mike Hopkins, Robert Kamphaus, Mark Miller, Andrew Hall, Mike Vitch (instructor), and Jim Thomason.



T.R.I. TEST KITS

T.R.I. Test kits will be mailed the week of 19 January 2004. If ships are not going to be in port during that time, or other circumstances would prevent your ship or unit from conducting the test during that time, let Laurie Barber know and the kit can be mailed at a more convenient time.

COMMISSIONED OFFICER DIVE PAY

For NOAA Corps Commissioned Officers, dive logs need to be at NDC by the 5th of each month for dives completed the previous month, in order to be paid by the 15th.

