



# The Reel Line

DiveTulsa.com®

Underwater Adventure & Training



Randy W. Saffell, Editor



## This Issue

- Dive Tails, Bill Dausses
- Gear Review, Chad Engler
- Image Of The Month, Jennifer 'JJ' Spreiter
- In Memory, Beverly Saffell



## Where Is Everyone?

Bobby Jones, Jim Koonce Jr. & Sr. and Gary Ackinson just returned from a trip to The Flower Gardens, more information in the next issue.



## PHONE NUMBER

**918.258.4888**

DIVETULSA.COM HAS A NEW PHONE NUMBER! FOR INFORMATION, CLASSES OR WHATEVER, NOW YOU CAN CALL US!

## Monthly Social

Randy & Beverly Saffell are hosting the first monthly *DiveTulsa.com* social. Everyone is invited; everyone has diving stories to trade. Beer, wine and soft drinks will be furnished with assorted munchies. If you have a favorite appetizer or dessert feel free to share it. As you know, divers can eat. Future socials will be held on the first Saturday each month. Saturday August 2nd at 7:00PM, 1224 S. Aspen Ct, Broken Arrow, 630-6081



## Contact Information

918.254.4888 or  
adventure@divetulsa.com

If you want to e-mail Chad, Loretta, Steve, Tim, Bill, Randy or Bev directly, just use their first name followed by, @divetulsa.com

# Gear Review

## Companies With Values?

Most companies have glossy vision statements that speak to their values and customer commitment. They really mean all those things when they write them, however you don't find out just how strong their commitment is until something goes wrong. Two recent positive examples of companies that stand behind their values.

**Henderson** I have a Henderson Gold-core jumpsuit which I just love. One weekend, I pulled a little too hard on the knee pad and tore the wetsuit. My warranty had expired; my dealer had gone out of business. I looked on the web and got the address for service at Henderson, packaged the suit up and sent a note telling them what had happened and that I expected to pay for the repair. The suit came back fully repaired, even improved in ways other than the repair - with a note saying that although it was out of warranty, they felt they should fix it anyway at no charge.

**Dive-Rite** Loretta and I invested in two 18 watt HID lights about 2 and a half years ago. We bought Dive-Rite lights to use for wreck diving and cave diving because we wanted lights we could trust our lives to. Unfortunately, our lights have had some problems and have been repaired several times by Dive-Rite. After the latest of these repairs, I pointed out to Dive-Rite that this had happened several times and that there must be some basic problem with our particular lights. I explained that we had lost our trust in these lights for critical uses and wanted Dive-Rite to make it right. Dive-Rite stepped up to the plate and took responsibility for the lights and credited us back our purchase price. This was two and a half years after purchase.

I wish all companies remembered their values, even when it hurts! **Henderson and Dive-Rite are two who do.**

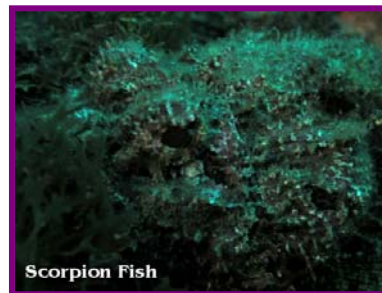
Chad Engler

# Upcoming Events

- |           |                     |
|-----------|---------------------|
| Aug 2     | Monthly Social      |
| Aug. 9    | Finding Clarence    |
| Aug 23-24 | Bull Shoals Weekend |
| Sept. 6   | Monthly Social      |
| Oct. 4    | Monthly Social      |
| Nov. 1    | Monthly Social      |
| Dec. 6    | Monthly Social      |

For More Information Contact [DiveTulsa.com](http://DiveTulsa.com)

## Image of The Month



Scorpion Fish

This month's image comes from Jennifer 'JJ' Spreiter and was taken during a recent trip to the Flower Gardens M.S. On the left is a great close

up of a Scorpion Fish, and below a yawning Scorpion Fish is captured at just the right moment. Both were taken using a Olympus C-4040 zoom camera with a DS-50 sub-strobe and a Ikelite housing. These are terrific images and a big thanks to JJ for sharing them with us.



Scorpion Fish with mouth open Say "Ahhhhh....."

If you have an image you would like to share just e-mail it to [randy@divetulsa.com](mailto:randy@divetulsa.com)

## Recent Certifications

- |                |            |
|----------------|------------|
| Mazi Sardashti | Nitrox     |
| Patrick Megee  | Open Water |

# Congratulations!!!!

# Dive Tails

## VENTURE CREW DOES THE FLOWER GARDENS

On July 6, 2003, the Venture Crew loaded the bus at 7 a.m. for three days of fantastic diving at the Flower Gardens National Marine Sanctuary. Excitement built on the bus trip as they crossed the Red River into Texas, had the traditional fresh seafood dinner at "On the River" in Freeport, Texas, and finally boarded the MV (Mighty Vessel) Spree that evening. At 9:00 Captain Frank and Divemaster Melanie gave the general overall orientation, and the boat headed for the jetties at 10 p.m.

The Gulf made the divers in the Crew use all their skills of navigation, controlling buoyancy, and monitoring air consumption as the seas were rolling and the currents running at the first stop which was Stetson Bank. But everyone who made the dive was rewarded with that "Grand Central" crowd of fish including large schools of gray snappers, schoolmasters, and Creole fish. Between the large schools were scorpion fish, some big black groupers and of course a healthy collection of spotted and goldentail moray eels. And yes, those majestic, huge french angelfish were still there. Wow! Everyone realized once again why they loved diving so much. After another great challenging dive it was time to head for the East Bank of the Flower Gardens.

Diving conditions at the East Bank were surprisingly similar to Stetson with current and waves but the sight at the bottom was totally different. Instead of the Stetson clay banks, mounds of colorful corals were everywhere and populated with the usual assortment of reef fish. Colorful stoplight parrotfish worked the reef while the assortment of damselfish, cardinal fish and blennies protected their turf. Occasionally small grouper would wander past and smooth trunkfish, porcupine fish (puffers), and scrawled filefish played their hide and seek game with divers. It was great to see a good population of tiger groupers again. The big surprise, however, was the high population of ocean triggerfish on sand patches all over the reef. They were guarding nests from predators.

The night dive had its surprises too! This year there were numerous spiny lobsters out along with the nightly cast of eels, a big turtle, and trailing dog

snappers in shadows waiting to jump on an easy meal. Red eyes were staring back from every crevice. Oh, the excitement of night dives!

Tuesday morning found the Crew at the West Flower Gardens. The first dive was classic with over 100 feet of visibility and no currents. Divers could not stop talking about how great the reef was after exiting the water and removing gear on the dive deck. Someone even saw a shark and the excitement grew all day as everyone voted to stay there for the night dive. Blue and brown chromis, jack crevalle and black jack schools, various groupers, more triggerfish pairs, and even a rare golden trunkfish were spotted. The stingray in the sand patch was a hit too. Suddenly everyone wanted to look at the fish id book to identify their sighting!

Wednesday morning found the boat back at Stetson Bank for the final dives of the trip. The divers were rewarded with the best collection of sea life during the entire trip. Visibility had improved (along with a lot of diving skills too!), and The Pinnacles was its usual magnet for pelagic and other exciting critters. This time a BIG black grouper cruised the bottom and a good sized spotted eagle ray kept eyes looking up and as well as down. In one crevice a spotted moray shared space with a spiny lobster, and several divers saw a southern stingray cruising into a resting location for the day. Even a black tip reef shark kept lurking just at the edge of sight keeping the suspense up. And everyone that got out of the water on the last dive said to themselves, "I must come back to this special place".

Great food, great fellowship, great diving, great memories.....if you want to take a virtual tour go to [www.gulf-diving.com](http://www.gulf-diving.com) and click on the various icons about the Flower Gardens National Marine Sanctuary, the photo gallery, meet-the-crew, etc.

Bill Dausses

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## Did U Know



That *DiveTulsa.com* wants you to join us at the lake when we are there. We operate on 'The More The Merrier' philosophy of diving. Please check the web page for the best up to date schedule and come join us!!!

# Class Schedule

## August

2nd - DiveTulsa Social  
6th - Deep diver specialty classroom  
7th - Underwater Navigation - classroom  
9th - Where's Clarence (Free lake event) -  
Beaver Lake 9th & 10th - Navigation class -  
lake session  
9th & 10th - Deep diver lake sessions  
12th - Open Water class - classroom session  
16th & 17th - Open Water class - Pool & Lake  
sessions - Beaver Lake  
20th - Boat diver classroom session  
23rd & 24th - Bull Shoals Trip  
23rd & 24th - Boat diver lake sessions - Bull  
Shoals lake

## September

2nd - Open Water class - Classroom session  
6th - DiveTulsa Social  
9th - Underwater Photography Classroom  
session  
13th & 14th - Open Water class - Pool & Lake,  
Underwater Photography lake - Beaver Lake  
16th - Nitrox specialty - Classroom session  
20th - Nitrox specialty - Lake session -  
Beaver lake  
23rd - Emergency First Responder class  
24th - Rescue diver classroom session  
27th & 28th - Rescue diver class - lake  
sessions - Beaver lake  
30th - Open Water Class - Classroom session

**If you are interested in a particular class that is not listed please contact us. We will make every effort to put together a class for you.**

## Cool Recipe

### Margarita Dip With Strawberry Shortcake Fruit K-Bobs

#### Ingredients:

1/2 cup fat-free sour cream  
3 ounces light cream cheese  
1/3 cup sifted powdered sugar  
1 tablespoon orange juice concentrate  
1 tablespoon lime juice  
1 teaspoon vanilla  
1/2 cup light whipping cream  
3 cups small whole strawberries  
1 (12 ounce) angel food cake, cut into cubes

#### Directions:

1. In a blender, food processor or with an electric mixer combine sour cream, cream cheese, powdered sugar, orange juice, lime juice and vanilla until well blended. Add whipping cream and process or mix until fluffy and mixture begins to thicken.
2. On 12 small wooden skewers thread strawberries and cake alternating each time.
3. Serve dip chilled with fruit kabobs.

#### Source:

KOTV Ch. 6 Website Adapted recipe by Rachel Cly, RD, LD

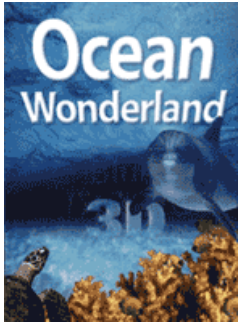


Nutrition information per serving: 147 calories, 24g carbohydrate, 3g protein, 4.5g fat, 2.8g saturated fat, 16mg cholesterol, 1.3g dietary fiber, 264mg sodium. Yield: 12 servings, 1 kabob and 2 heaping tablespoons dip

# Media Review

## In Memory

The diving community lost two pioneers in recent weeks.



Shot on the Great Barrier Reef and in the Bahamas, the main themes of "Ocean Wonderland" are the incredible diversity of the marine life on the reefs as well as the amazing beauty of the many varieties of coral thriving there. Shot in 3-D and viewed with special glasses nose-to-nose images of a porpoise and a sea snake are very exciting. Produced by 3D Entertainment, in collaboration with the United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP) this is a great way to grab a tasty beverage, a bag of popcorn and watch some great underwater scenes.

On a 1 to 5 flag scale.....

5 flag rating! 

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Yes, I love it.

The sea is everything. It covers seven-tenths of the terrestrial globe. Its breath is pure and healthy. It is an immense desert where man is never alone for he feels life, quivering around him on every side. There is supreme tranquility. The sea does not belong to despots. On its surface iniquitous rights can still be exercised, men can fight there, devour each other there, and transport all terrestrial horrors there. But at thirty feet below its level their power ceases, their influence dies out, their might disappears.

Ah, sir, live in the bosom of the waters! There alone is independence. There I recognize no masters! There I am free.

2000 Leagues Under The Sea  
Jules Verne 1870

**John J. Cronin** passed away July 15 at his home in Temecula, California at the age of 74. John was the co-founder of Professional Association of Diving Instructors in 1966 with Ralph Erickson. Thanks to John's leadership as CEO, PADI is currently recognized as the largest single entity in the diving industry. John at one time was CEO and then President of U.S. Divers and served on the board of the DEMA from 1971 until 1993, at one point being the President, and again elected as President in 1999, 2000, and 2002.

**Paul Tzimoulis** passed away at his home in Las Vegas on June 3rd. Paul was a scuba diving pioneer, renowned underwater photographer, author, longtime publisher and driving force behind Skin Diver magazine and more recently a key voice in the growth of Sport Diver magazine. Paul devoted years to diving, operating a retail dive store in East Haven, Connecticut, working as a salvage inspector, diving for sponges in Tarpon Springs, Florida, organizing film festivals, leading campaigns to save the historic wrecks of the East Coast and serving as a sales representative for Sportsands and U.S. Divers.

Beverly J. Saffell

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### Need Directions To?

- **Beaver Lake Dive Site**
- **Randy & Bev's**
- **Point West Resort**

Just e-mail [randy@divetulsa.com](mailto:randy@divetulsa.com) and request what you need!!!!

# Off Gassing!

After diving on one of my favorite and frequently visited locations I was feeling pretty good about my diving ability. A terrific dive in 35' of blue ocean water, and a bottom time of 1½ hours. Wow, I thought, that was great, and air to spare when the dive was over.

Out of curiosity, I checked back in the log book several years to my first visit to this site. Yea, still 35', but for only 30 minutes, hmmm, must have cut the dive short! No! Log book says I had 500psi left. The ole' log book says I made 3 dives after that, 35' for 0:35, 35' for 0:35 and 35' for 0:35, all ending with about 500psi. So, when I was a relative new diver, it required three dives for the same bottom time as I now get on one! Maybe my gear was not as good then! No, log book says I was wearing basically the same stuff.

So what does this say about diving? In my opinion! Diving is an art form, and to do it properly takes practice, patience and acquired skill and knowledge. The gear merely lets us visit and enjoy the underwater world.

All of you that will receive this newsletter also have acquired skills and knowledge and are diving some great profiles. Go back a few years in your log book and check your progress, I'll bet you will see the same thing I did.

The more diving you do the better you get, as did the great painters, composers, sculptors and writers. This sport we call diving is an art!

Randy W. Saffell