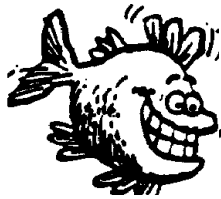


UP AND DOWN THE ANCHOR LINE

KEYSTONE DIVERS ASSOCIATION



Volume 307

May 2012

Next KDA Meeting:

Wednesday, May 2, 2012

Dinner @ 7:00 P.M.; Speaker @ 8:00 P.M.

Barnaby's, West Chester, PA

Bart (BARTIFACT) Malone

**“The Life...The Death...The Reincarnation of
The SS NORTHERN PACIFIC”**

S.S. Northern Pacific, was an 8255 gross ton passenger liner built in 1913-1914 in Philadelphia, PA, for high speed commercial operation in the eastern Pacific Ocean. Early in November 1917 she was taken over by the Navy for World War I troop transport service and placed in commission as USS Northern Pacific. Following several months of conversion work at the Puget Sound Navy Yard, the ship left the West Coast early in March, with nearly 2000 troops on board for transportation to New York, via the Panama Canal. Later in March 1918, after installation of her armament, *Northern Pacific* left New York Harbor on the first of 13 round-trip voyages to France. She carried nearly 23,000 troops and other passengers to Europe, and brought more than 9500 back to the U.S. On a few occasions German submarines or torpedoes were reportedly sighted, but no damage was inflicted on the fast-moving *Northern Pacific*. She then began bringing war veterans home, but this work was interrupted on January 1, 1919, when she ran hard aground off Fire Island, NY. Refloated 18 days later, *Northern Pacific* was under repair for the next five months. She made two more trips in 1919. Decommissioned, she was turned over to the War Department for use as an Army Transport. In late 1921 she was returned to the U.S. Shipping Board and sold for further commercial employment. However, while under tow to a Chester, PA, shipyard on February 2, 1922, the *Northern Pacific* caught fire and was destroyed. **Bart Malone**, a diver for 51 years and an avid shipwreck diver, is also a curator at *The Museum of New Jersey Maritime History* in Beach Haven, NJ. **Bart** has made more than 170 logged dives to the *Andrea Doria* since he first reached the wreck in 1985 and for years served as a mate on the *Seeker*, one of the two principal dive boats to work the *Andrea Doria*. Diver & retired carpenter Bart Malone's artifact collection is, from what I hear, bigger than the ocean itself. "I'm in it for the artifacts," Malone says. "I love the search, the recovery, the preservation." And we love Bart! Do stop in!

GREAT NEWS MEMBERS: Ask about ongoing terrific KDA Member Specials on selected diving gear and accessories @ DDD!



Buster says:

“Go soak your head!”

*But check out the 2012 dive schedule first!
www.dudasdiving.com!*

Mike@dudasdiving.com (610) 436-0176!

Last KDA Meeting: March 7, 2012!

Tom Maddox is the owner of MAR-VEL International, one of the largest diving supply companies in the world and one of the largest suppliers of diving equipment to professional divers and the US Navy. One of the highlights of Tom's underwater adventures came in 2005 when he was asked to co-pilot the Russian 3-man submersible MIR-2 and video *Titanic* during the final 2005 Titanic Expedition documented in History Channel's *Titanic's Final Moments: Missing Pieces!* Going down two and a half miles with two other folks in a 6-foot sphere (this is the best shape to take the pressure) with only a small viewhole to the sea gives one an entire new and unique spin on the world below. Of course having a wreck diver's eye gives one a certain advantage, too! Down below the *rusticles* dangling from the all too familiar railing topped bow of the *Titanic* lays the one-mile debris field. The white porcelain of the chamber pots and first class indoor toilets really stand out as do the still 'new and clean' bronze props only 1.5 days in service when she went down. There are shoes, bed springs, complimentary cigars, arrays of liquor and wine bottles— having long outlived the cases that formed them. You can see where you are on the wreck by the dedicated size of the coal; the small pieces were used for the stoves in the cabins, the big ones were used to feed the 29 coal-stoked boilers that ran the ship – only a day and a half out when she went down – she was LADEN with coal! The Russian Academy of Science's research vessel, *P.P. Shirshov*, usually on duty to survey deep warm water vents, is host to the *MIR* - Translation: Tranquility! That is the feeling during the 2.5 hours it takes to 'float' to the bottom. Not anchored in, she operates via dynamic positioning. It was like riding in a tennis ball – if it gets bumped or encounters rough seas during release from sub-tender, *Kevich*, there is NOTHING to hang onto! You could really break something important required for your trip back up! During descent, it is about 100 degrees for about 45 minutes and then the temperature drops drastically to around 40 degrees as she strolls to the bottom. The passengers are basically 14 hours inside a rebreather - high oxygen - at 6,000 ppi of pressure so all contaminants had to be left at the point of entry – the entry being the only thing that Tom was afraid of – because he might not fit! In-between her 8 AM descent and 10 PM recovery the crew waited patiently playing volleyball and shared their Vodka upon return! It was such an honor & privilege to serve on the *P.P. Shirshov*, that even the people who made the beds were PhD's! Four hundred miles SE of St. John's Newfoundland where Marconi had first transmitted a signal to the UK from her Signal Hill only 5 years before, came the signal of distress – only to fall on the sleeping ears of closer ships. Only the *Carpathia* heard and came to the rescue that fateful evening of April 15, 1912 (the U-55 torpedoes HER in 1918). The radio law of 1912 changed all that forever – a ship at sea MUST have two radio operators – one on duty at all times! Lifeboat drills are also a practice ironically initiated by the tragedy where only one thousand seats were available for two thousand passengers requiring them. Thanks, Tom, we appreciate your unique input! So glad you were able to get thru the hatch! **Steve Fredrick** (seems like old times) won the 50-50. Sea You **5-2-12!**

upcoming KDA events & special stuff

Next KDA Meeting:

Wednesday, May 2, 2012

*** Bart Malone ***

*“The Life...The Death...The Reincarnation of
The SS NORTHERN PACIFIC”*

Attention KDA members!!

KDA members will receive a discounted rate of \$3/fill, a savings of \$2 off the regular DDD air fill rates of \$5.

A message from Mike Merkin:

Shark finning for shark fin soup is a status symbol to the growing middle class in China. Please visit SHARKDEFENDERS.COM and sign the petition at STOPSHARKFINNING.NET to help eliminate the demand and save our apex predators that are so integral to the marine environment.

➤ **KDA Email address:**
mail@dudasdiving.com

➤ **The official KDA Web address:**
www.dudasdiving.com/keystone-divers/

We have many specials at the shop these days – drop by and check us out on your way to the North Atlantic, the South Atlantic, somewhere in the Pacific – or maybe just a cave or quarry nearby – we’ll be here! Hey! Have you gotten your regs overhauled yet this year??



Peter Hess, 1959-2012

As you may know by now, our good friend Peter Hess, a long-time friend to Dudas Diving Duds who presented often at The Keystone Divers Association, passed away suddenly on January 12, 2012. He will be missed dearly by all of us, but mostly by his beloved son Benjamin.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the Benjamin Hess College Fund, and may be mailed to: M&T Bank, Fairfax, 2301 Concord Pike, Wilmington, DE 19803. Please make the check payable to M&T Bank and please mention the Benjamin Hess College Fund in the memo.

Meeting Place: 1st Wednesday's: BARNABY'S OF AMERICA

15 South High Street, West Chester, PA (610) 696-1400

Parking is free in the garage across High Street if you stay until 9:30! Follow Rt. 3 into town (Market St.), turn left when you get to High Street & you're there on the left! Or Follow Rt. 202 North from DE and go straight when it becomes High Street – go up about 6 blocks and it's on the right (BEFORE Gay St!)

Keystone Divers Association 2012 Membership Application

New Member

Renewal Member

(\$25/ea. - \$40 couple)

Name: _____

Phone Day: _____

Birthdate _____

Address: _____

Phone Nite: _____

Customer# _____

Certifying Agency: _____

When? _____

Occupation: _____

Certification Level: _____

Where? _____

E-Mail Address (for online newsletter): _____

The KDA *NORMALLY* meets at Barnaby's of America (top floor) the FIRST Wednesday of the month beginning at 7 PM, 15 South High Street, West Chester, PA (610) 696-1400. The speaker begins at 8 P.M.

Wednesday, May 2, 2012 Barnaby's; Meeting @ 7 PM Presentation @ 8 PM! SS Northern Pacific w/Bart Malone!

Wednesday, June 6, 2012 Barnaby's; Meeting @ 7 PM Presentation @ 8 PM! Another great speaker!

Wednesday, July 11, 2012 Barnaby's; Meeting @ 7 PM Presentation @ 8 PM! Another great speaker!

DIVER'S ED

ScubaDiver @ West Chester YMCATuesdays – May 15, 2012

ScubaDiver @ UMLYMondays – June 4, 2012

ScubaDiver @ West Chester YMCATuesdays – June 26, 2012

CPR/First Response Wednesday, May 23, 2012

Rescue.....Thursday, May 24,2012

Nitrox @ DDD..... Wednesday May 16,2012

Asdvanced @ Dutch Springs Sat. & Sun. May 19 &20, 2012

Open Water @Dutch Springs Sat. & Sun. May 19 &20.2012

Private and Semi Private..... upon request

Divemaster Call for details

❖ *Other Specialty Diver Classes being scheduled – call DDD (610) 436-0176! Private & semi-private lessons upon request!*

SCUBA CAMP! Our most popular class designed for the younger diver taught by Evelyn.

Camp 1 June 25-29

Camp 2 July 16-20

Space is limited call to sign up soon!!

EBD GOES TO NORTH FLORIDA several times a year! Call DDD (610) 436-0176

I can do OW checkouts 12 yrs and older. Anyone wanting to start or continue overhead training or just practice Openwater - scootering too! We have housing for \$25/nite. EBD to cook Family style meals. ANYBODY IS welcome! Even Non Divers! Water is 71 degrees year-round + gin clear. For checkout dives you get about 60 minutes or more of bottom time on each dive. Your awareness of great conigutation is greatly increased & no waves, no blow outs, and NEVER in a hurry! So many cool people, too! Call EBD for details!

DIVE TRAVEL & EVENTS

DUI DEMO DAYS AT DUTCH SPRINGS.....TRY OUT A DRY SUIT!.....May 19 & 20, 2012

Kasawari, Lembah Strait –! May 23-28, 2012

Raja Ampat Islands, West Papua, IndonesiaMay 29 – June 9, 2012

Key Largo, Florida.....August 2-6, 2012

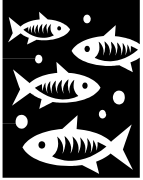
St Lawrence Seaway, Canada.....September 1-3, 2012

Cozumel, Mexico October 6-13, 2012

Bonaire..... November 17-24, 2012

Roatan, HondurasJanuary 19-26, 2013

Philippines June 2013



Keystone Divers' Association
c/o Dudas Diving Duds, Inc.
104 Bartram's Lane
West Chester, PA 19382
(610) 436-0176

FIRST CLASS

NEXT Meeting : May 2, 2012!

Barnaby's: SS Northern Pacific w/Bart Malone

The Keystone Diver's Association
presents:



❖ **Bart Malone** ❖

The Life...The Death...

The Reincarnation of the

SS NORTHERN PACIFIC

Wednesday, May 2, 2012

Dinner @ 7:00; Speaker @ 8:00 PM



❖ **Barnaby's of America**

15 South High Street, West Chester, PA (610) 696-1400

Join us in a fascinating evening of images and video from the SS Northern Pacific!