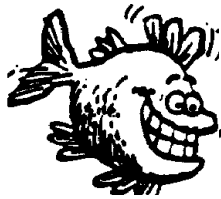


# UP AND DOWN THE ANCHOR LINE

## KEYSTONE DIVERS ASSOCIATION



Volume 306

April 2012

*Next KDA Meeting:*

**Wednesday, April 4, 2012**

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

**Barnaby's, West Chester, PA**

**Tom Maddox**

***2005 Expedition to Titanic***

Tom Maddox is an explorer, a race car driver, a father and a businessman. Tom has enjoyed the underwater world since he was a boy of 8 years old when he took his first SCUBA dive. The die was cast and Tom knew that he would spend his life in search of everything underwater. In his early 20's, Tom became a SCUBA instructor. He was one of the first Certified Ice Diving Instructors in New Jersey. He was soon awarded the National Association of Underwater Instructors (NAUI) "President's 99" award for being one of the top 99 instructors in the world. At the age of 25 he opened his first dive shop and entered into the diving industry. Tom's businesses grew and he became 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. Tom served on the Executive Board of Directors for the Association of Diving Contractors for 12 years. Tom was an activist in protecting ship wreck salvor's rights by fighting against the Abandoned Shipwreck act of 1987. Tom testified before both the House of Representatives and the Senate in favor of salvor's rights. Subsequently, Tom was the last person to claim the salvage rights to a shipwreck under the old Admiralty Law prior to President Reagan signing the Abandoned Shipwreck Act into law. Tom has led diving expeditions all over the world. He has led expeditions to the Coral Sea with noted physicist and Professor, Igor Gamow (Inventor of the Gamow Bag for the treatment of High Altitude Sickness) where they studied and taught the science of human physiology and motion underwater. The two have also led expeditions into the Australian Outback searching for Aboriginal cave art. Tom led a significant expedition right in his own back yard in New Jersey studying, measuring and performing sound underwater archeology principles on the ships sunk in the Mullica River at the Battle of Chestnut Neck during the revolutionary war. One of the highlights of Tom's underwater adventures came in 2005 when he was asked to co-pilot the Russian three man submersible MIR-2 and video Titanic during the final 2005 Titanic Expedition documented in History Channel's *Titanic's Final Moments: Missing Pieces*.

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



**Buster says:**

**The ocean called today....  
wanted to know where you were!!**

*Check out the 2012 dive schedule!  
[www.dudasdiving.com/](http://www.dudasdiving.com/)*

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

**Last KDA Meeting: March 7, 2012!**

**Dive Vanuatu with Mike Gerken! The SS *President Coolidge*** is one of the world's most famous shipwrecks. Located in Vanuatu (formerly New Hebrides), it has been very popular in Australia and New Zealand, but has recently taken on interest in the US. She was originally a luxury passenger liner built in Newport News, VA for the Dollar Steamship Line. She began her prestigious voyages in 1931 to exotic ports of call like Havana, Hong Kong, Japan, China and Shanghai carrying a surprising number of folks who could afford such luxury during the Great Depression. She continued this routine for nearly 10 years, departing from her home Pier 44 in San Francisco, which is now ironically the National Maritime Museum where Mike was able to gather all sorts of information and archival film from her past. One of the most notable things, besides 4 months of diving on her, that went into his 2006 full-length documentary was an interview w/one of the servicemen who was on the *Coolidge* when it was sunk! His son contacted Mike asking for a copy of the documentary and told him why he wanted it, thus the interview was born. The gentleman died three months later. In 1940, due to mismanagement, she was signed over to the US government and began sailing as the American President Lines. (Her sister ship SS Herbert Hoover ran up on a reef before the war near Java.) That same year, as WWII started to unfold, she began offering safe passage back to America for US citizens stranded abroad. A twin Westinghouse electric powered drive system for the turbines that ran the engines took her to cruising speed of 20 knots - so fast she could outrun any enemy sub so she didn't need an escort vessel. Directly after Pearl Harbor in 1941 she was commanded by the US Army and 5,000 troops under the command of Capt. Harry Nelson were on board along with seven enormous holds loaded with all the necessary supplies to relieve the Marines on Guadalcanal in the Solomon Islands; trucks, canons, medical supplies, food, jeeps, etc. Her destination was Espiritu Santo, New Hebrides, a US Military base that was the first line of defense from the Japanese military advancement in the Pacific Theatre of WWII, with four airfields, five hospitals and already populated with thousands of military personnel. In a VERY top secret operation, the US had laid mines at both ends of the channel separating Espiritu Santo from Tutubu Island to ward off any surprise attack by the Japanese. This was SO top secret that they didn't even tell the radio operator that told Capt. Harry Nelson to go ahead - come on in - to the channel. Her escort ship was mysteriously absent at that time. Lucky for the crew of 5,000 that they had spent a lot of time practicing abandoning ship, because on May 28, 1942 at 9:35 AM two bombs in sequence went off as the bow scraped the coral and the captain turned the ship into shore. Some had time to grab some clothes and finish lunch, but all had to climb down the rope ladders and go sit on the salvage ship as the *Coolidge* reeled over and sank at 10:52 AM. with all cargo lost to the sea. With only two known casualties, they suffered an uncomfortable overpopulation of the island as 5,000 men had to go into solution with the thousands already there! The Marines on Guadalcanal were not relieved until January 1943 - thus they continued to fight with only light munitions and supplies on hand. At 654 ft long, an 81 ft beam, 34 ft depth, she now rests from 66 to 265 feet of water. She was the first ship ever to have a swimming pool (great footage of people trying to swim in there in rough seas), of course she is the first ship ever to have a swimming pool at 160'! The engine & control room are at 150'; the famous Lady & the Unicorn wall fresco @ 130', but no artifacts can be taken. It's not just a ship sunk on the bottom of the ocean, is it?! There is SO much more - people, stories, lives, history - and great luck on Mike's part to find all those great film clips! Mike is a photographer and a captain with Olympus Dive Center in Morehead City, NC. Please visit Mike's web site at [www.evolutionunderwater.com](http://www.evolutionunderwater.com) to view video excerpts or buy the film! **Patti Pittock** won the 50-50. Sea You 4-4-12!

## upcoming KDA events & special stuff

Next KDA Meeting:

**Wednesday, April 4, 2012**

**\* Tom Maddox \***

**2005 RMS Titanic Expedition**

**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](http://SHARKDEFENDERS.COM) and sign the petition at [STOPSHARKFINNING.NET](http://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](mailto:mail@dudasdiving.com) (610) 436-0176

➤ **The official KDA Web address:**  
[www.dudasdiving.com/kda.html](http://www.dudasdiving.com/kda.html)

**We are very sorry to report the death of Evelyn's Mother, Marion Reynolds Bartram of West Chester. Mrs. Bartram to you!** Predeceased by her husband of 49 years, John Hibberd Bartram, she was 89 when she died on March 6, 2012. Along with five daughters, the oldest being Evelyn, she leaves a legacy of 22 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren. She and her husband graduated from Penn State University and established a family run fruit business in Chester County. They owned and operated Bartram's Market at the corner of Route 202 and 926 for 35 years. She went on to earn her master's degree from Villanova. For those who recently started coming to the dive shop, she lived in the big house directly across the drive from the shop. She was present at all our club picnics and auctions – as it was she who graciously LET us hold them in her front yard!

**We would also like to extend our condolences to Bob Jurich on the death of his beloved brother Duke, Dewey J. Jurich of Glen Mills on March 16.** Bob, Evelyn says you gave him quite a send-off!



### **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: MOST 1<sup>st</sup> 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!)**

**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, April 4, 2012** Barnaby's; Meeting @ 7 PM Presentation @ 8 PM! Tom Maddox, a TITANIC speaker, conveys his memories and experiences on the 2005 scientific research expedition to the *RMS Titanic!*

**Wednesday, May 2, 2012** Barnaby's; Meeting @ 7 PM Presentation @ 8 PM! Another great speaker!

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

## ***DIVER'S ED***

Scubadiver @ West Chester YMCA .....Tuesdays – April 3, 2012  
 Scubadiver @ UMLY .....Mondays April 16,2012  
 Scubadiver @ West Chester YMCA.....Sundays April 29,2012  
 CPR/First Response ..... Wednesday, April 18,2012  
 Rescue.....Thursday, April 19,2012  
 Nitrox @ DDD..... Wednesday April 11, 2012  
 Advanced @ Dutch Springs.....Sat. & Sun. May 19 &20, 2012  
 SCUBA CAMP .... June 25-27.....Dutch Springs Open water June 28&29..... Dutch Springs 30 & 31 weekend w/ EBD  
 SCUAB CAMP.....July 16-18.....Dutch Spings Open Water July 19 & 20 .....Dutch Springs July 21 & 22 .....W/EBD  
 Divemaster ..... Call for details

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

**The KDA has gone virtual on FACEBOOK: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Keystone-Divers-Association/109216253318>**

### **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 - scooting 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 configuration is greatly increased & no waves, no blow outs, and NEVER in a hurry! So many cool people, too! Next trip: **APRIL 19-22**

## ***DIVE TRAVEL & EVENTS***

Curacao.....May 5 – 12,2012  
 Kasawari, Lembah Strait –..... always room for more!..... May 23, 2012  
 Key Largo.....June 15-18,2012  
 Raja Ampat Islands, West Papua, Indonesia .....2 spots left - GET EM! .....May 29- June 6, 2012  
 St. Lawrence Sea Way.....Sept. 1-3,2012  
 Caymans.....September 2012  
 Truck Odyssey .....September 2013

**DAN Trip Insurance:** Cover Your Dive or Dream Vacation! *Go to the DDD website (dudasdiving.com) and click "Travel Diving," look for the link on the left that says "Dive Travel Insurance!"* Traveling on your own? We can help you with your travel plans. Call for details.

### **Keystone Divers Association 2012 Membership Application**

New Member                       Renewal Member                      (\$25/ea. - \$40 couple)

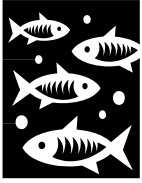
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Day: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Nite: \_\_\_\_\_ Customer# \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Certifying Agency: \_\_\_\_\_ When? \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Certification Level: \_\_\_\_\_ Where? \_\_\_\_\_

**E-Mail Address (for online newsletter):** \_\_\_\_\_



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

## FIRST CLASS

**NEXT Meeting : April 4, 2012!**

Barnaby's: Titanic with Tom Maddox

*The Keystone Diver's Association*  
*presents:*



❖ *2005 Scientific Research Expedition to*

# RMS TITANIC

**w/Tom Maddox**

**Wednesday, April 4, 2012**

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

---

❖ **Barnaby's of America**

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



**A fascinating evening of images and video from the last Titanic Expedition. This was the last group of people to ever see the RMS Titanic on the bottom of the ocean. Come, see what it takes to travel 2 1/2 miles below the surface to visit this historic grave site.**

