

UP AND DOWN THE ANCHOR LINE

KEYSTONE DIVERS ASSOCIATION



Volume 309

July 2012

Next KDA Meeting:

Wednesday, July 11, 2012

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

Barnaby's, West Chester, PA

Friends of Dudas Diving Duds

Raja Ampat, Indonesia

on board Dive Damai I

Join us in a fascinating evening of images and video direct from the recent *Dudas Diving Duds* expedition on board *Dive Damai I* to Raja Ampat and the Cenderawasih Bay National Park, West Papua, Indonesia. Leaving Sorong, Indonesia, about as far west as one can get on the island of West Papua and about one degree south of the equator, our boat traveled north to the Raja Ampat Islands of Gam, Waigeo and Wayag, just on the north side of the equator. West Papua is the west side of the island that embraces Papua, New Guinea (the entire east side). It is just above Australia and due south of Japan. Underwater, World Heritage-class giant coral heads abound along with sponges, soft corals & countless colorful species of fish & critters just waiting to be 'discovered' by the divers hurling headfirst off the skiffs into this rarely seen part of the planet! Heading back toward Sorong, on a beautiful starry nite with rather rough surf conditions, we answered a last-minute call to go back millions of years to witness a 900-lb soon-to-be extinct leatherback turtle lay her eggs in the sand of the remote Indonesian beach where 15-30 years before she, too, had emerged from her leather-like shell, making her first swim in the brown seaweed laden surface of the sea. The WWII wrecks 'The Junk Pile' and the Japanese tanker, *Shinwa Maru* in Manokwari Harbor were next on the docket for the gleeful wreck divers. Next stop was Cenderawasih Bay-*Cenderawasih* means "bird of paradise" in Indonesian, but they remained aloof as there was no time for land excursions on this mission as we had limited time to motor down into the bay to where the bamboo-poled fishing *begans* tethered to the sea floor awaited with their world-famous freeloaders in tow, the WHALE SHARKS! They turn lights on at nite to attract the fish and the next morning (or whenever bait is available) the whale sharks appear - we spent the afternoon with two adults (35-40 feet long) and their baby (around 20 feet long) and the next morning several more joined us. No tourists, no other boats, just the whale sharks and the 10 of us with our cameras: Evelyn Dudas, Norman Lynch, Jeb Schneider, Patti Pittock, Mark Smith, Kathy Woehl, Geri Murphy, Barbara Mainville, Dr. Maida Taylor and Ed Kelly. Raja Ampat means "the four kings," a name dating back to the 15th century when the Sultanate of Tidore - one of the Muslim sultanates in the original Maluku west of Halmahera - appointed four local "rajas" in Misool, Salawati, Batanta and Waigeo. A side trip to Bali on the way home made us feel like those four kings! See ya 7-11-12!

Last KDA Meeting: June 6, 2012!

Becky Kagan Schott graciously responded to our invitation to be the guest speaker for June and brought with her a presentation on *The Shipwrecks of Isle Royal National Park*. **Isle Royal National Park** is a 40-mile-long island located in the Northwest area of Lake Superior. The island is a gem surrounded by beautiful lighthouses and great hiking trails but the real draw is what's below the surface. Preserved for centuries in the cold fresh water are a variety of shipwrecks in outstanding condition for photography and exploration. These wrecks are also clean and free from the invasive zebra mussels you'll see in the other lakes. Isle Royale offers exciting scuba diving opportunities for recreational and tech diving. The most incredible part of these shipwrecks is the rich history and stories that brought them to their final resting place. **Becky Kagan Schott** is half of the Emmy Award winning videographer team that owns **Liquid Productions, LLC**. She and David Schott specialize in underwater videography, still photography and High Definition 3D video in any aquatic environment including caves, deep wrecks and marine wild life. Their projects have taken them all over the world from documenting historic wrecks in the Great Lakes, Japan and Truk Lagoon to filming wild dolphins, whales and great white sharks...cageless! They are currently working on several topside and underwater documentary projects. For more info visit www.LiquidProductions.com

Someone won the 50-50. Sea you 7-11-12 (because the FIRST Wednesday in July is *The Fourth of July*!)



Buster says:

**Trimix, Nitrox, Heliox, Air
What's in YOUR cylinder?
Something more rare!?**

*Fill 'em up at Dudas Diving Duds and
check out the 2012 dive schedule!*

www.dudasdiving.com/

Mike@dudasdiving.com

(610) 436-0176!

upcoming KDA events & special stuff

Next KDA Meeting:

Wednesday, July 11, 2012

*** Friends of Dudas Diving Duds ***
**“Raja Ampat & the Whale Sharks
of Cenderawasih Bay, Indonesia”**

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 Gerkin:

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 (610) 436-0176

➤ **The official KDA Web address:**
www.dudasdiving.com/kda.html

Bart Malone says: PLEASE write your congressman! Keep NOAH at bay and out of your bug bag! Help fight the big battle – the government is using our money to fight US! They want to extend the economic limit from three to 300 miles off shore, and when that happens, you will probably need a permit to dive.

Scuba Camp July 16-20-2012 Malvern Prep

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

Meeting Place: MOST 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: _____

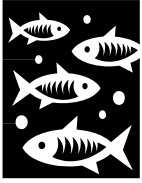
When? _____

Occupation: _____

Certification Level: _____

Where? _____

E-Mail Address (for online newsletter): _____



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

FIRST CLASS

NEXT Meeting : July 11, 2012!

Barnaby's: Raja Ampat & Whale Sharks

The Keystone Diver's Association
presents:



❖ *Friends of Dudas Diving Duds*
**Raja Ampat and the Whale
Sharks of Cenderawasih Bay, Indonesia**
Wednesday, July 11, 2012
Dinner @ 7:00; Speaker @ 8:00 PM



❖ **Barnaby's of America**
15 South High Street, West Chester, PA (610) 696-1400

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