



# Your Diving Connection

### Coming in Next

#### Quarter's Newsletter:

- Meet the Divemaster staff.
- Class schedule update. Look for the new "Women's Only classes" to be offered in addition to regular classes.
- Updates on staff developments and trip dates.

## Welcome and Happy 2006!

Welcome to the new quarterly newsletter from the Diving Den. We hope you enjoy the articles. We are taking this chance to introduce you to some of the teaching staff at the shop. We hope that we can help you reach your next level in scuba diving. If you are unsure where you would like to go with your diving, we can help with that also.

If you would like to see something explained in future newsletters, please drop by the shop and let Jeff or Dave know.

Living in Indiana gives us a chance to vary our scuba skills beyond warm water reef and wreck diving. With

the change of the seasons, we have the opportunity to learn to ice dive as well as learning to dive with dry suits. The colder water often offers much better visibility in our local quarries.

We are also close to the Great Lakes, which is an incredible opportunity to see preserved wrecks that are hundreds of years old. This is possible because the fresh water of the Great Lakes does not deteriorate the wrecks like the salt water will.



**'Tis the season for very hard water.**

If you would like to explore options in diving that you haven't considered before, please talk with any of the staff at the shop for more information.

#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Meet the Staff—Instructors	2
Developing News	2
Class Schedules	3
Classes Explained	3
PADI specialty of the month	3
News Bubbles	4

## Dive Instructor Information Explained

In the following pages there is a chance to meet some of the instructing staff. However, there may be some terms used that you might not be familiar with. So here is an explanation, ahead of time.

The first professional level a diver reaches is Divemaster. The initials DM appear before that persons certification number. A Divemaster is able to assist with classes and help out an instructor. These individu-

als are very dedicated people and are great sources of information if you have questions about diving.

Next level is Assistant Instructor. The initials AI appear before their certification numbers. An assistant instructor can help teach classes and can evaluate some skills.

The first level of full instructor rating is Open Water Scuba Instructor. The initials OWSI appears on the

certification card before the number. The instructor at this level can teach classes from discover scuba through Divemaster. An OWSI can also teach specialties if certified to do so.

The next level an instructor reaches is Master Scuba Diver Trainer. The initials MSDT precedes the certification number. An instructor at this level can teach **at least 5 specialties** and certify someone to the Master Scuba Diver level.

## Instructor Staff Introductions



### Bill Menges - Instructor

Bill first began scuba diving in 1967. After a

25 year surface interval, as he likes to refer to it, he was recertified in 1997. Bill ventured into the professional level of diving in 2000, when he received his Open Water Scuba Instructor certification. Taking his career another step forward, Bill earned his Master Scuba Diver Trainer certification in 2001. Bill enjoys teaching new divers, and the opportunity to show divers more diverse diving experiences. Bill's easygoing style makes learning fun for his students.

Bill's current diving goal is to dive more in 2006 than he did in 2005. He recently purchased a boat and is in the process of setting it up for diving. Although Bill doesn't really have a favorite dive location, he does manage to find something special every place he dives.



### Sheila Price - Instructor

After a vacation to the Hawaiian Island of Maui,

Sheila began diving in 1994. She became an Open Water Scuba Instructor in 1997, and received her Master Scuba Diver Trainer certification in 2000. In February 2001, Sheila became a volunteer diver at the Indianapolis Zoo where she continues to dive the Waters Biome each week in the Shark, Caribbean Reef, Indo-Pacific Reef, Amazon River, and Caiman exhibit tanks.

Sheila continues to learn as much as she can about life in the underwater world. She loves to share her knowledge and enthusiasm through teaching classes, and by using her underwater video skills to share the magic of the sub-aquatic realm with others. Sheila would like to venture back to the Pacific Northwest for more diving in the abundant and rich waters along Vancouver Island.



### Tim Stahl - Instructor

Once Tim began diving in 1993, there was no stopping him. It was dive

after dive, and class after class. Tim became a PADI Open Water Scuba Instructor in July of 1994. Introducing new divers to the underwater world and teaching them the skills to be able to do it safely is very rewarding to Tim.

Tim's first trip into a cave created a passion that he did not know was possible. In January 1995, during the infancy of cave diving when it wasn't accepted by many, Tim was certified as a full cave diver. His desire to teach continued to expand into the technical area of diving and he is now an instructor for NACD, TDI, SDI, IANTD, PADI and DAN. Tim is now qualified to teach divers in most recreational levels and specialties as well as technical areas from nitrox through full trimix and cavern through full cave.

Most of Tim's favorite places to dive are caves. He is a great source of information and knowledge about this sport if you would like to learn what cave diving is like.

**Please check our website often. We will post dive trips on there as soon as we have them.**

[www.divingden.com](http://www.divingden.com)

## Recent Developments

We are working on developing dive trips all the time. Please check our website to stay up-to-date on where we are going.

Please check upcoming newsletters and our website for our staff developments. We believe that to be the best instructors and staff that we can be, we have to continue learning about diving also. We have three



divemasters that will be working on their instructor ratings in the next few months. Also, our instructors continue to learn about all areas of diving, including

two who are going to be taking an introduction to cave diving class early this year. We continually work to bring you the widest variety of diving education that we can. If you are interested in a particular area of diving, there is probably someone on staff who can help you explore that interest.

# Class Schedule

<b>Open Water</b>	Mon & Wed Jan 9,11,16,18 6pm	Tue & Thur Feb 7,9,14,16 6pm	Weekend Feb 18,19 Lafayette	Mon & Wed Mar 6,8,13,15 6pm	Weekend Mar 11,12 Lafayette
<b>DAN O2</b>	Thursday Jan 26 6-9pm	Wednesday Feb 8 6-9pm	Wednesday Feb 22 6-9pm	Thursday March 16 6-9pm	
<b>Ice Diver Class</b>	Friday Jan 20 classroom session 6pm	Saturday Feb 4 dives			
<b>Emergency First Response (EFR)</b>	Saturday Jan 28 10am—6pm	Saturday Feb 11 10am-6pm	Saturday Mar 4 10am-6pm		
<b>Equipment Specialist</b>	Monday Feb 13 6pm	Monday Feb 27 6pm	Monday Mar 20 6pm		
<b>Gas Blender</b>	Mon & Tues Jan 30,31	Mon & Tues Feb 20,21			
<b>Divemaster</b>	Monday Mar 27, Orientation 6pm				
<b>Dry Suit</b>	Tuesday Feb14 classroom and pool session 6pm				

**Equipment Specialist**—learn all about caring for your dive gear and get to understanding how regulators work.

**Dry Suit**—become comfortable diving in colder water and get an opportunity to see the local dive locations during a time of year when the visibility is

usually much better than the usual 10 feet (or less).

**EFR**—learn CPR and diver related first aid. This class can be taken by divers and non-divers alike, so bring along the family.

**Ice Diver**—perfect time to take this class since

everything is ice covered now.

**DAN O2**—Learn about using oxygen in the event of an accident. Excellent knowledge to go along with Rescue diver and EFR.

**Gas Blender**—Have you wondered what it takes to

mix Nitrox for diving? Or perhaps why equipment has to be oxygen cleaned to be used (and just what does “oxygen cleaned” mean)? This class will help you understand the answers. Excellent for additional knowledge beyond a Nitrox class.

## PADI Specialties of the Months—1st Quarter 2006

PADI offers special deals with a different specialty certification each month of the year. For the month of January, the specialty is Dry Suit Diver. PADI is giving away a free PADI t-shirt with each dry suit diver certification. Check at the shop to see about taking advantage of this offer.

February’s specialty is Underwater Navigator. This specialty is very helpful for people who have a difficult time finding their way around different areas. Studying navigation at local dive sites is extremely beneficial. Navigation techniques can also be learned for han-

dling diving situations in different locations. This is a good course to take regardless where you will be diving during February.

PADI’s specialty offer in March is with the Search and Recovery specialty course. This course offers you the chance to learn

different search techniques along with the ability to try using lift bags to recover lost items. This specialty is great for those people who dream of becoming treasure hunters, or those who just want to help recover “lost items” such as boat motors or even keys.



## Diving Den

2219 E.C.R. 00 NS  
Kokomo, IN 46901-6622

Phone: 765-452-1034  
E-mail: [jeff@divingden.com](mailto:jeff@divingden.com)  
[dave@divingden.com](mailto:dave@divingden.com)  
[www.divingden.com](http://www.divingden.com)



## PADI 5 Star facility

Check inside the newsletter for class schedules. Perhaps there is a class that you didn't even know existed but would exactly match what you are interested in.

Now is a good time to take your equipment in to the shop for it's annual maintenance and repair. Your equipment will be ready for that winter trip to warmer water.

Have you been wanting to learn CPR and first aid? Now is a good time to take the Emergency First Re-

Not only is it a good time to take your equipment to the shop for it's annual service, it is also a good time to take an equipment specialist class so that you can learn to

Are you concerned that you may not be ready for the diving season this spring? How about checking into a trip to the Florida panhandle where you can dive in the Gulf and the springs and keep up your skills. You can also take a refresher course at the same time.

Do you have a special interest in an area of diving that hasn't been talked about much? Ask at the shop about