



SeaNotes

- Our shops will be closed during the month of September, but we will be available by phone and email.
- Our Yacht Harbour facility in Spanish Town, Virgin Gorda, will be getting a facelift, visit our Facebook page for makeover updates.

For information, suggestions and any comments, please email casey@divebvi.com

Thank you for reading!

Dive BVI
www.divebvi.com

The season in review!

Thanks to all our guests for a phenomenal season! Wreck Week 2011 was an absolute success: good visibility, great weather, and awesome divers. We also want to congratulate all our Wreck Week participants for earning their SSI Wreck Diving Specialty! Stay tuned for upcoming news on our fourth Wreck Week happening in May 2012.

Last month we had the Poseidon CCR seminar,

put together by James Robertson, Executive VP for Poseidon and Doug McNeese, Scuba Schools International CEO, and hosted by us at Scrub Island Resort. Dive shop owners and instructors from all over the United States had the opportunity to try these recreational rebreather units and attend seminars that covered their use and repair. The Discovery MK VI CCR is the first

rebreather created for recreational divers and SSI will provide training and certification on this unit as part of their Technical Extended Range (TXR) programs. This event also introduced Dive BVI as a rebreather friendly facility. Check out our YouTube page: <http://www.youtube.com/divebvi> for some cool videos of these events. We are fired up and ready for the next season!

Newbies

Hey, this newsletter is new! We are aiming for a quarterly release to be posted on our website for all to follow. Leave us a note at casey@divebvi.com and give us your opinion; we also welcome short articles sharing your BVI diving experiences.

We will be updating our website during the next few months to include events and courses to learn and experience all the new diving toys we have: DPVs (Diver Propulsion Vehicle), Poseidon Discovery MK VI units, and OTS Full Face masks. Our website will also feature new Dive and Stay

packages and new deals for dive groups. Also, we have put together some amazing Dive and Sail packages merging the best of two worlds to discover the British Virgin Islands: sailboat luxury and rendezvous diving with Dive BVI.

Dive BVI will be taking the BVI fashion industry by surprise by unveiling their own clothing label, Gorda Gear, in the coming months. Check our Facebook page to stay up to date with our happenings: <http://www.facebook.com/divebvi>





ScubaBrain

Dive BVI, an SSI Instructor Training Center (ITC), is responsible for keeping the highest standards in diving education to feed your scuba brain. In addition to a wide array of courses, from Try Scuba to Dive Control Specialist, Dive BVI provides you an extensive list of diving specialties to choose from. Did you know that most specialties require only two dives? Ask us how to add an awesome learning experience to your diving vacation.

This month some of our dive instructors are getting an introduction to the SSI Freediving programs. Our goal in the next few months is to develop a few SSI Freediving Instructors so we can teach you safe breath holding techniques and improve your breath hold time. Talk about extreme snorkeling!

Travel Plans

Silly Scuba Talk:

"A two tank dive trip? So that means that we are diving with two tanks? Cool!"



Rosewood Little Dix Bay (www.littledixbay.com) has partnered with DIVE BVI to bring you a unique photogenic adventure. Amateur shutterbugs and underwater photo aficionados have the opportunity to practice, and learn new techniques in this 5-day "hands and fins-on" photography class. The workshop will be led by New York based Deborah Liljegren who has 12 years of diving experience and over 20 years of photography experience. The package includes classroom instruction and seminars, in addition to seven dives with DIVE BVI, with personal coaching and guidance from Liljegren. Among focused topics will be the use of strobes and

artificial lighting; lighting techniques; macro photography; processing and other individualized areas of study. Participants must have recognized SCUBA certification and may rent or bring their own underwater camera with a 100 ft dive rating. The Underwater Photo Discovery Program will be held November 15-20, 2011 at Rosewood Little Dix Bay. The package starts at \$4,225 for single occupancy; \$5,025 for double occupancy with one diving participant; and \$6,025 for two diving participants, in a Garden View room, including:

- 5 nights luxury accommodations inclusive of tax and resort fee

- 3-day dive package for one diver with DIVE BVI including 7 dives, national park fees & dive equipment
- Daily breakfast, lunch & dinner for two
- Gift bag from DIVE BVI
- \$200 service credit per room at Sense, A Rosewood Spa®
- Boat transfers to and from Tortola Beef Island Airport

This package must be booked by November 1, 2011. For more information or to make reservations for the Underwater Photo Discovery Program at Rosewood Little Dix Bay, please contact (284) 495-5555 or visit www.littledixbay.com.

Sea Talk

We are always getting questions about the signs we have posted on our boats that warn our guests about lionfish. We explain our divers that even though they are beautiful and photogenic fish; they simply do not belong in these waters. Also, that is very important not to touch them or try to capture them without proper equipment and protection. Lionfish (*Pterois volitans*) are indigenous to the Indo-pacific ocean, so basically they are outside their territory. Another concern is that nothing keeps them in check, in other words,

they do not have any natural predators. They eat profusely, mate and lay eggs year round, hence they present a great risk to all the other species in our waters. It seems that the propagation that can be witnessed in other areas such as Bahamas and Turks and Caicos, has been kept under control in the BVI. This is due to the early intervention by the Conservation and Fisheries Department, in conjunction with most of the BVI dive operations. Early this year the BVI dive shops received authorization to spear and

remove any lion fish on sight. If you see a lionfish during your visit to the BVI please contact the department to report the sighting by calling 494-5681, 494-3429, 468-9611 or 468-9678. Additionally any photographs, specific location details, GPS positions or questions may be emailed to bvilionfish@gmail.com.

Dive BVI will continue its efforts to locate and remove this specimen from our waters. Please let your Dive BVI staff know if you see one during one of our trips.



Pterois volitans

Did you know that lionfish actually tastes good, there's even a cookbook!
<http://www.reef.org/cat/alog/cookbook>

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