

# NAUI SOURCES

## Dive Safety Through Education

September 16th, 2021 Edition

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Please Note:

All Photos Used in this Newsletter are From NAUI Members!

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Credit: Alvanir S. Oliveira

# Members Photo Library

Thank you to all of the members for the photos that they have been sending. It is great to see what NAUI is doing worldwide.

Photos from the NAUI Members Library are featured in NAUI Sources, social media posts, marketing pieces and other NAUI promotions.

The NEXT Contest is to send in your best photo showing a photo of a favorite dive site. Go to <https://photolibrary.naui.org/> and upload a photo. Be sure to give us a brief description of the photo, what is happening in it and the names of those in the photo. We will announce the winner in the next NAUI Sources. The prize will be an Advanced Diver NES Kit.



## Winner of the Sources Photo Contest!

Congratulations to **Antonio Arcucci** for the submission of this photo to the NAUI Photo library.

You will be sent a code of Advanced Diver NES Kit as a thank you for your submission.



# NAUI Flagship Travels Around the World: A story that continues! (Part 4)

**Captain's log 30/07/2021:** How to celebrate 100 scuba dives?

Located at the southern part of Lanzarote, we carried 3 guests on board!

This is a rather special family to us, as father Bart and 2 daughters Jozefien and Charlotte are not 'first-timers' onboard SY Blowing Bubbles. During the last 10 years, they have participated in many voyages with us and even were part of the maiden voyage of the SY Blowing Bubbles in Sept 2020.

Now, onboard for a weeklong scuba trip, we had noticed that Jozefien had a logbook filled with almost 100 scuba dives!

Up to us, the crew of the SY Blowing Bubbles, to come up with a unique experience and dive location to make the 100th scuba dive special, even unforgettable!

How would you want to celebrate/experience your 100th dive?

Or do you even remember when you did that 100th dive?

As we have plenty of dive sites around us, we decided to make sure that we would be able to offer a fish-filled dive site.

After some scouting, we had found a very unique reef structure, composed of a short wall from 4 mtr to 12 mtr and beside of it, a nice sandy bottom sloping down to 18 mtr. The site would grant us a long dive time, time to enjoy the multitude of fishes present on the reef and also to look around for some special visitors on the reef!

We made a group dive with all three crew members and all three guests together and we had a special task planned for our youngest crew member Leander (11 years old). During the dive, we encountered thousands of fish, a total of 15 species were immediately identified by all group members! Oh, did I mention that Jozefien was NOT wearing a dive suit?? As part of the tradition (I wonder which one, where it came from?), the 100th dive would be made 'naked' (although wearing a bathing suit!). The water temperature was a nice 21°C, but then again, that is still pretty fresh to the bone without a dive suit...

We briefed Jozefien in telling her that she could call the dive at any time she would feel chilly and after 35 minutes of being in the water, she was still doing OK! What a strong lady! The dive was ended by the task at hand of our youngest crew member Leander.





Underwater he presented a NAUI duck (do you know what I mean, do you already own one?) as a gift to Jozefien! The duck was marked with the '100th dive' text to make sure that Jozefien would surface with both a lasting souvenir AND lasting memory of the special 100th dive onboard SY Blowing Bubbles,

After the dive, completing our logbooks together, we all ended up with another surprise...

Jozefien had not only finished her 100th dive, but she also did all those 100 dives with us, the crew members of SY Blowing Bubbles. She took her NAUI training with us at Time to Dive in Belgium, 10 years ago, starting with the Open Water Scuba Diver Course and later on continuing to the Naui Advanced Scuba Diver Course.

She collected her 100 dives in 9 countries, being Belgium, Germany, the Netherlands, France, Egypt, Panama, Philipines, Bonaire and the Maldives.

What an honour joining for 10 years all around the world and guess what?

According to Jozefien, she was not finished discovering and exploring the blue planet yet...

She would keep on joining the SY Blowing Bubbles during the world trip and already booked her place onboard for some next adventures to come! And so did her dad Bart and her sister Charlotte who both passed their 100th dive earlier and also made all their dives with us, Karen Erens (#54653) and Jean-Marc Claes (#40992).

Needless to say, we are so proud to have them as guests returning onboard the SY Blowing Bubbles!



# NAUI Mobile Training Team

NAUI has officially announced the launch of the NAUI Mobile Training Team (MTT) for early 2022.

The NAUI MTT will promote the growth and continuing commitment to member engagement worldwide. The mission is to assist NAUI members in developing teaching ability and to expand their course offerings and skills. The planned workshops may vary by region and may include:

Freediving Instructor & Examiner

Technical Instructor & Examiner

Recreational Specialty Instructor

First Aid Instructor & Instructor Trainer



All workshops are open for enrollment on October 1, 2021, with very limited seating. These NAUI Mobile Training Team workshops are a great way to improve your skills and become more marketable in your region.

Sign-up for a workshop and get an NAUI MTT exclusive event shirt that you will only get while attending a NAUI MTT Workshop.

Check out more [here](#) to view upcoming available workshop dates and available space.

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## International Think Tank Update

The first two groups have had our initial meetings. We are off to a great start. Our first task is to build superior resource files that can be used and adapted by members. If you have ideas for resources needed or are interested in joining our group, please contact Bill at [bdoran@nau.org](mailto:bdoran@nau.org).

The three groups will meet as follows:

Affiliates (Stores, Charters and Resorts). The first Thursday of the month at 10 am.

Independent Instructors. The second Thursday of the month at 10 am.

Professional Educators. The third Thursday of the month at 10 am.

As busy people, we understand that you cannot attend all of the time, but we appreciate the time and input you can offer.

The purpose of the three NAUI Think Tanks is to create an open line of communication between members from different geographic regions. We will identify needs and create marketing pieces that will have a unique benefit to each group.

During each group meeting, we will work to produce and share ideas and then take the time to bring those ideas into reality in various languages. The language to be used during the meetings will be English, so participants must have some basic skills in this language. The goal is that these groups will have the ability to translate various marketing pieces into their language. In addition, we will work to have marketing pieces available in several languages for members to download, customize and use in multiple regions.



# CAPRI & AMALFI COAST DIVING

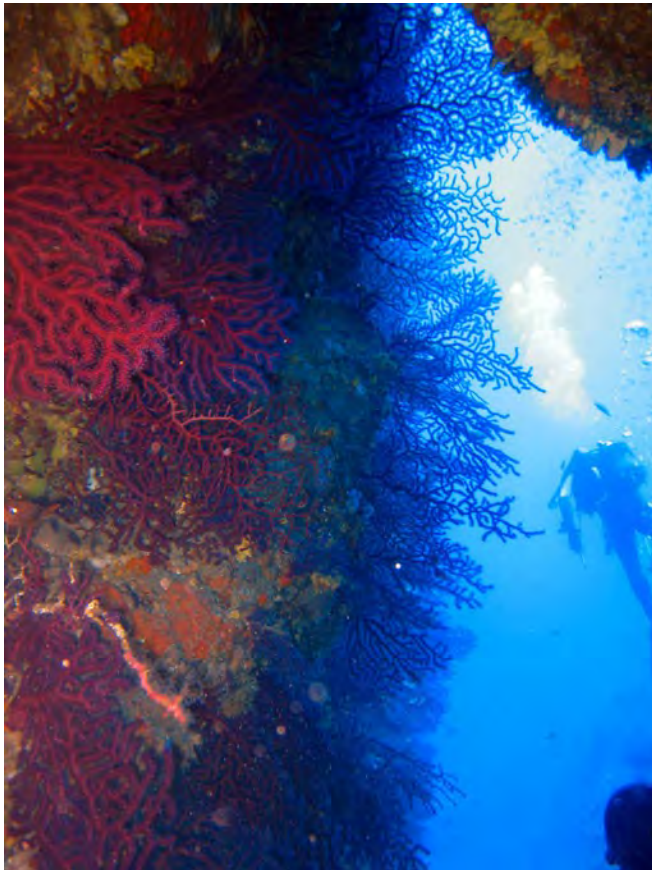
Written By/Photos Provided By: Antonio Arcucci

**L**ocated on the beautiful Amalfi Coast, just three miles from the magical and superb island of Capri, you can dive safely with us and have lots of fun; in the Marine Protected Area of Punta Campanella and the fascinating seabed of one of the most famous and appreciated islands in the world.



Walls that sink into the cobalt blue-rich in life, caves, wrecks, are the types of diving that we offer to our guests.

This area is also one of the richest sites of underwater caves in the entire Mediterranean Sea: there have been more than 50.



Faraglioni, Grotta Segreta, Scoglio a Penna, Scoglio Isca, Traliccio, aeroplane wreck, Grotta dello Zaffiro, Scoglio Vervece (the Sanctuary of Italian divers), these are some of our more than 20 dive sites that cover the entire range of diving experiences and certifications: from 18 meters for beginners to the deepest and most demanding dives for technical divers.





## CAPRI & AMALFI COAST DIVING



Our rental equipment is overhauled every year and we have a location for renting underwater cameras available to our customers.

The Capri & Amalfi Coast Diving is a Platinum PRO Center NAUI managed by the Course Director Trainer and Technical Instructor Examiner NAUI Antonio Arcucci (#8292L), with over 40 years of experience in the diving sector, and by the Instructor Trainer NAUI Aventino Zuddas(#61098).

Since 1985 we have been training divers at all levels, always adopting only the NAUI standards and the motto "Safety through Education".

Our professional staff will provide you with friendly, courteous and competent service, ensuring that your diving experience will exceed all your expectations.

The headquarters of the Diving Center is located within a well-known tourist village and, therefore, we are also able to offer various types of accommodation (rooms, bungalow, camper place, tent place) and restaurants with specialties of the renowned Neapolitan cuisine.

Possibility of guided excursions to Capri, Amalfi, Sorrento, Positano, Pompeii for "non-diver" guides.

Contact Us/Find Us At:

diveincapri@gmail.com, with

Facebook/Instagram: Diving Capri & Amalfi Coast





# Join Us for the Next NAUI Talk

**E**very two weeks the NAUI Marketing department runs the NAUI Talk webinar series with guest presenters, speakers, and discussions. Each topic is an opportunity for NAUI members around the world to build and succeed in their businesses. Sessions range from 30-60 minutes, time well spent!

The next session will be on Tuesday, September 21st at 2 pm EST, where we will feature “Plan your next season for success!” October is a change of season for almost all of us. Although it is changing to different seasons in different parts of the world, we all have one thing in common. We need to have success!

NAUI Talk sessions are run by our host Bill Doran, NAUI Worldwide Marketing Director, and guest speakers. These are thirty minutes to one-hour fact-filled themes that assist, support and build our NAUI members and the businesses. So, invest a few minutes and gain valuable information.

During this session, you will gain from topics such as:

*How to plan for your needs.*

*Considerations when planning for your customer needs.*

*Areas of opportunity*

*Executing your plan!*

*What is your call to action?*



Be sure to RSVP your spot right away!

The invitations will go out, but why wait? Use the link below and sign up now! Feel free to pass this link to your fellow divers!

Register in advance for this webinar:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_UiLN-DWjTVC73oSj0h6dHw](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_UiLN-DWjTVC73oSj0h6dHw)

## Upcoming NAUI Talks:

*September 21st, 2021 - Plan Your Next Season for Success*

*October 5th, 2021 - How to Customize NAUI Promotional Items for Your Business*

## Check out Previous sessions of NAUI Talk by going to NAUI TV :

<https://www.youtube.com/c/NAUITV/videos>



# A Community Comes Together

At approximately four in the afternoon on September 1st, 2018, a small, recreational boat capsized the St. Lawrence River near the town of Rockport, Ontario, opposite Alexandria Bay, New York. An eleven-year-old boy, Joshua, and four others fell into the water. All but Joshua were successfully rescued. Sadly, he vanished beneath the surface.

The subsequent 911 call triggered an intensive search, including Royal Canadian Air Force Search and Rescue (SAR), the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) and Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) marine units, as well as Canadian and American Coast Guard units. The SAR team from Canadian Forces Base Trenton parachuted from a C-130 Hercules into the water near the capsized boat and searched it in case Joshua was trapped inside, but in vain. Efforts to find the boy continued until nightfall.

On Sunday, September 2nd, the OPP dive team arrived on-site and deployed a tow fish to search the river's deeper sections. Unfortunately, it could only run up and downstream and not across from shore to shore because of the short distance. The OPP dive team quickly encountered the river's unforgiving conditions. On top of low visibility, they were confronted by currents of up to six knots at the surface and up to four knots underwater with plenty of eddies and reversals. The topography was daunting too: sheer rock walls dropping to a depth of two-hundred and twenty feet with many shelves and fissures capable of hiding a child's body. This proved to be a problem. Ontario labour regulations restrict the OPP divers to a maximum depth of a hundred feet, while the river quickly drops much deeper. After seven days, the OPP dive team left, though the two fish operators continued searching for another five days. But the local volunteer fire department's marine unit, helped by New York State Troopers and by boaters from both sides of the Canada-US border continued looking for Joshua. On September 12th, I joined the search.

On my first dive, I scooted to a depth of two hundred feet to search a boulder field. As I was ascending from one decompression stop to another, I recovered a snorkelling bag at eighty feet, close to where the boat had capsized.

I shared my find with the OPP and Joshua's family the next day, during a public gathering at the Rockport community centre. A local dive operator and the family had organized the meeting to discuss the next steps since the search was taking divers deeper and into more dangerous waters. Joshua's family identified the snorkelling bag as theirs. It gave us hope we were looking for him in the right place.

On Friday, September 14th, a specialized search team from the Ottawa Valley Search and Rescue Dog Association with four cadaver dogs began a systemic search of the area where the boat capsized, a not inconsiderable task. The dogs, entering the water one at a time, quickly picked up a scent that attracted their interest.

That weekend saw the technical diving and boating communities come together as never before. Over twenty divers and fifty boaters from all over converged on Rockport to conduct intensive underwater and shoreline searches. For the divers, it was their first time working as an organized group, but still without results.

Crossman Consulting joined the effort during the following week with two state-of-the-art remotely operated vehicles (ROVs) boasting onboard cameras and sonar. They could cover as much in four days as the divers could in fifteen. But not without difficulties. Because of the strong currents, the ROVs were caught from time to time by rocks, sunken logs, and even search lines laid by divers. And when that happened, those same divers had to recover them. Yet even these high-tech tools could not find Joshua, in part because of an early autumn algae bloom, thanks to unseasonably warm weather, which cut visibility to less than ten feet.



## A Community Comes Together

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The search for Joshua continued over the rest of September and into the first half of October, with volunteers from the technical diving community braving high currents, low visibility, and lengthy decompression obligations daily. Diver propulsion vehicles were the tool of choice as they allowed their riders to cover a greater area. The cadaver dogs returned during that time and pointed at the same spot as before, strengthening the notion Joshua's body was in that area, but not readily visible to divers for some reason. Meanwhile, Crossman Consulting ROVs continued to patrol the deep waters.

When I got up on Thursday, October 18th, well before the sun, I knew in my bones it would not be just another tiring day searching the river bottom. As I left the house, I glimpsed one of the most beautiful shooting stars I had ever seen. When I joined my fellow searchers in Rockport, shortly after dawn, I told them I had high hopes for the day, though the morning's dive brought us no closer to finding Joshua.

That afternoon, my buddy and I resumed our search, drifting at about two knots at depths between two-hundred and two-hundred twenty feet. He was closer to the centre of the channel, while I was closer to the wall. We set our bottom time at forty-five minutes for a three-hour runtime in total. Near the end of our bottom time, my buddy found a ball of weeds that turned out to cover a garden chair and an old refrigerator. But since we had to ascend, I waved him up and he could not investigate much beyond moving some weeds aside.

A grim surprise awaited us on our return to the surface. One of the ROV cameras had finally found Joshua. And his body was near where my buddy found the weed ball and garden chair. He blended so well into a bottom covered by blanched zebra mussel shells that we had not spotted him in the low visibility. Rather than being pulled down the river by the current, Joshua's body had drifted to that place and remained there for over six weeks.

My buddy Steph and I volunteered to recover Joshua the next day. Neither of us slept much that night. Nor did Joshua's family now that we had found him.

Our dive plan was simple. Using the GPS coordinates from the previous day, send one of Crossman's ROVs to locate Joshua. Once that was done, my buddy Steph would enter the water and follow the ROV's line. Why only one diver? With the surface wind conditions, it was challenging to keep the ROV in place, to begin with. Two divers using the ROVs line would have hopelessly pulled it off position. Once Steph found Joshua, he would wrap the body in one of the hockey nets we bought to aid in the recovery and deploy the first surface marker to show all was ready. Once that marker appeared, I was to enter the water, scooter to its position, descend sixty feet, and wait for the body. A rescue diver would go in at the same time as me to accompany Steph on his lengthy decompression, while the fire rescue boat would wait by the marker to take charge of Joshua.

Our plan worked — with one exception. Joshua's body came up faster than expected, in large part because we could only estimate the effect gas expansion would have on his buoyancy. By the time I reached the marker, he was rising past ten feet, and I had but a moment to stop him from surfacing uncontrollably. The fire rescue folks took him from me and returned him to his family onshore.

By then, Joshua had been missing for forty-eight days. During that time, I spent sixty hours over twenty-two days searching. I am no expert in search and recovery, but I learned a lot from incredible people in our business. Everyone who took part in the effort, volunteers all, contributed to finding Joshua and giving his family closure. It could not have been done without help from the boating and diving communities, the cadaver dogs, the ROVs, and their expert operators, and especially without the support of the community at large.

## A Community Comes Together

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During the search, the local community supported the searchers through donated food and drink. Dive charters operators donated their time and the usage of their boats while motel owners on both the Canadian and US sides made rooms available at no cost. Residents would help carry our equipment before and after each dive, a local restaurant kept divers, volunteers, and Joshua's family fed, refusing to accept payment. In addition, the family set up a GoFundMe page which raised \$110,000. That money helped pay for tank refills (trimix does not come cheap!) and expenses incurred by divers, some of whom came from as far as Florida. They donated the unused balance to the Ottawa Valley Search and Rescue Dog Association, whose cadaver dogs showed us the way.

But what kept us going the most was Joshua's loving family. They never gave up, and that spirit gave us the energy to bring him home.

Marc A Grondin lives in Ottawa, Canada. He has been diving for twenty-four years and teaching for twenty as a NAUI instructor. Marc has been a technical dive instructor since 2005. His greatest love, after his family, is cave diving in North Florida, something he has done for the last seventeen years.

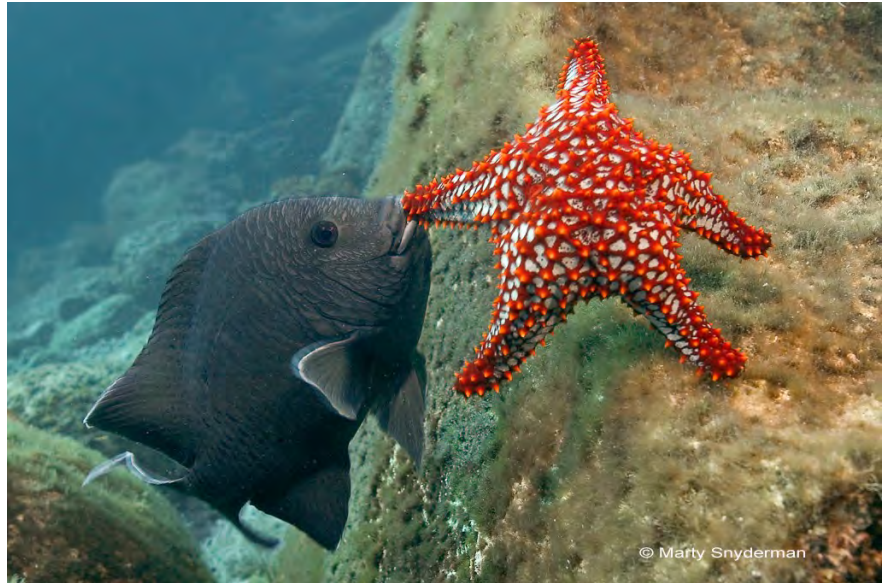




## Enjoy the Process, Not Just Your Processed Images

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Created in the southern end of Mexico's Sea of Cortez, the first photograph that accompanies this text shows a vigilant male giant damselfish grabbing a gulf sea star to move it away from its nest, as the sea star would readily devour any eggs it could reach.



The second image, also captured in the southern end of the Sea of Cortez, is a shot of a California sea lion pup holding a gulf sea star in its mouth. I can't tell you what the sea lion was thinking, but it seemed as if the animal was trying to "impress me" in some way or capture my attention.

Given that this piece leads with these two photographs, you might think I am going to focus my message on the challenge and techniques involved in making photographs that share such interesting animal behaviour. I will get to that. But first, I want to share some thoughts about the pure joy of being able to go underwater and create photographs. While dealing with the pandemic that has impacted all of us for the previous year-and-a-half, I spent some time thinking about how people, myself included, so often responded to various scenarios in what was everyday life for decades for those of us that enjoyed the privilege of diving with a camera.

If you are a diver, you have almost certainly heard underwater photographers complain loud and long about how bad the visibility was on a given day, that they had the wrong lens on their camera for the potential subject they encountered, their dive buddy swam off, someone didn't share a subject like they were expected to, their strobe didn't fire, their once-in-a-lifetime subject was facing the wrong way, the current was too strong, their battery died, their camera gave them an error message, the boat anchored in the wrong spot, that they should have been here last week etc.





## Enjoy the Process, Not Just Your Processed Images

Life has a way of re-focusing our thoughts. No doubt about it, during the past 18 months, all of those just mentioned complaints would have been wonderful problems to have. I am not denying that these problems are frustrating, but the challenges of the coronavirus make them so insignificant that they don't even register on the scale of real problems.

I think a lot of us would have loved to be in the water swimming with a whale shark even though our camera system was not set up to shoot wide-angle. Right now, as I sit in front of my computer, a moment like that seems like the definition of pure joy. At times like those, just take the camera system you have and see if you can "make a compelling photograph" or simply enjoy the moment and be grateful for it.

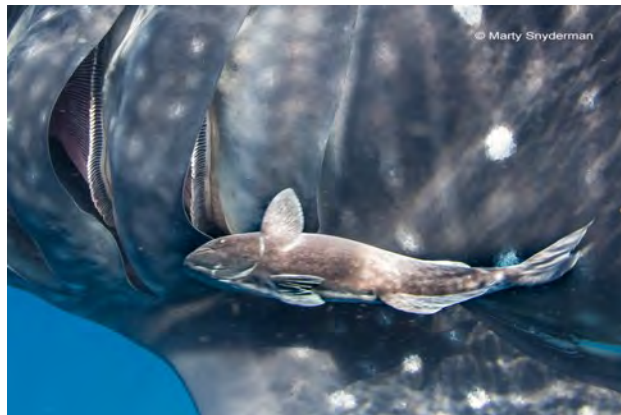
My message is to remind you to be grateful for having been able to enjoy scuba diving in the past, for any opportunity to do so in the future, and to recognize how fortunate we are to explore the underwater world with a camera in our hands. Lucky, lucky us!

With that said, I would like to conclude by sharing some thoughts about the image of the male giant damselfish removing a gulf sea star from its nest and the California sea lion holding a different gulf sea star in its mouth. About the male giant damselfish, the males of many species of damselfishes are highly territorial and extremely vigorous in defending a nest, especially one that is holding eggs.

Having learned that lesson while watching and photographing the giant damselfish in the Sea of Cortez, I was able to put that knowledge to use by recognizing the males of three other species of damselfish as they protected their nests.



*A male damselfish commonly known as a sergeant major guards the eggs in its nest in the waters of the Caribbean island of Bonaire.*



*Pictured here, a male garibaldi defends its nest in the waters off southern California's Catalina Island.*



## Enjoy the Process, Not Just Your Processed Images



*Seen here, a male Indo-Pacific sergeant protects the eggs in its nest on a reef off the Hawaiian Island of Maui.*

In many damselfishes, the nest-building and egg-laying are seasonal. If you learn the right time of year and the preferred habitat, usually a relatively shallow area with some vertical facing rocks or reefs, you can make photographic dives that target the behaviours of damselfishes as they relate to courtship, egg-laying, nest guarding etc. When possible, my suggestion is to look for a nest or fish that appear to be courting. Stay with them as you watch and photograph their behaviour. Watch what the fish are doing and learn from it. Be patient and try to anticipate and establish your camera and strobe settings before approaching your subject. Move deliberately and keep a distance that doesn't threaten your subject or interfere with any behaviour. After that, compose, focus, shoot, check your exposure, make any needed adjustments, and then repeat the process.

With regard to the photograph of the California sea lion pup holding a gulf sea star in its mouth, there is no question that these pinnipeds can be extremely curious about their surroundings, and they can be what we might describe as “playful”. While I have never been able to predict when the pups would decide to “put on a show”, it is not uncommon. And when the show starts, sea lion pups often grab sea stars, rocks, and sometimes pufferfishes or other fishes and swim around with them in their mouths. I once watched a group of sea lion pups pass a small horn shark around from one sea lion to another for at least twenty minutes. Interesting to me. “Fun” for the sea lions. And I suspect, a tough afternoon for the young horn shark.



When no other objects appear to be more interesting, playful sea lion pups are well known to grab a hold of a diver's fins, snorkel, and any loose straps and zipper pulls etc., as pictured here.

On the other hand, adult male sea lions, known as bulls, are highly territorial during certain times of the year and can be very aggressive toward divers that invade their space. In short, dominating their territory is serious business for the bulls.



*A pair of California sea lion bulls vie over the boundary of their territories.*

Whether photographing male damselfishes protecting the eggs in their nests, playful sea lion pups, bulls that are “all business”, or any other subject or scene, above all, remember to be grateful for and enjoy the process, not just your processed images.

## Announcements / News

Check out what NAUI Members are doing and let us list your events on the NAUI Sources Site. These can be courses, Environmental Clean Ups, or more. Simply email your event information to [marketing@naui.org](mailto:marketing@naui.org) and help us keep NAUI divers informed.

<https://sources.naui.org/category/news/>



## Promote your events!

Take a look at upcoming courses, environmental cleanups, special events and more.

Don't forget to tell us about your events so that we can list them too. Simply email your event information to [marketing@naui.org](mailto:marketing@naui.org) and help us keep NAUI divers informed.

<https://www.naui.org/events/>

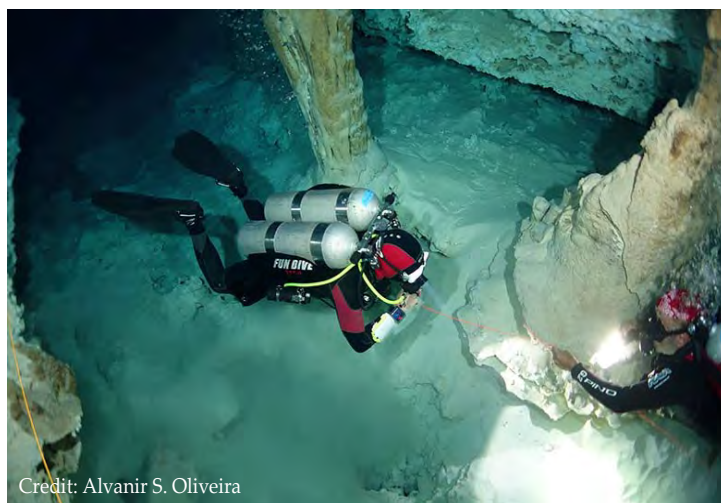


## SCUBA Industry Careers – Check the NAUI jobs!

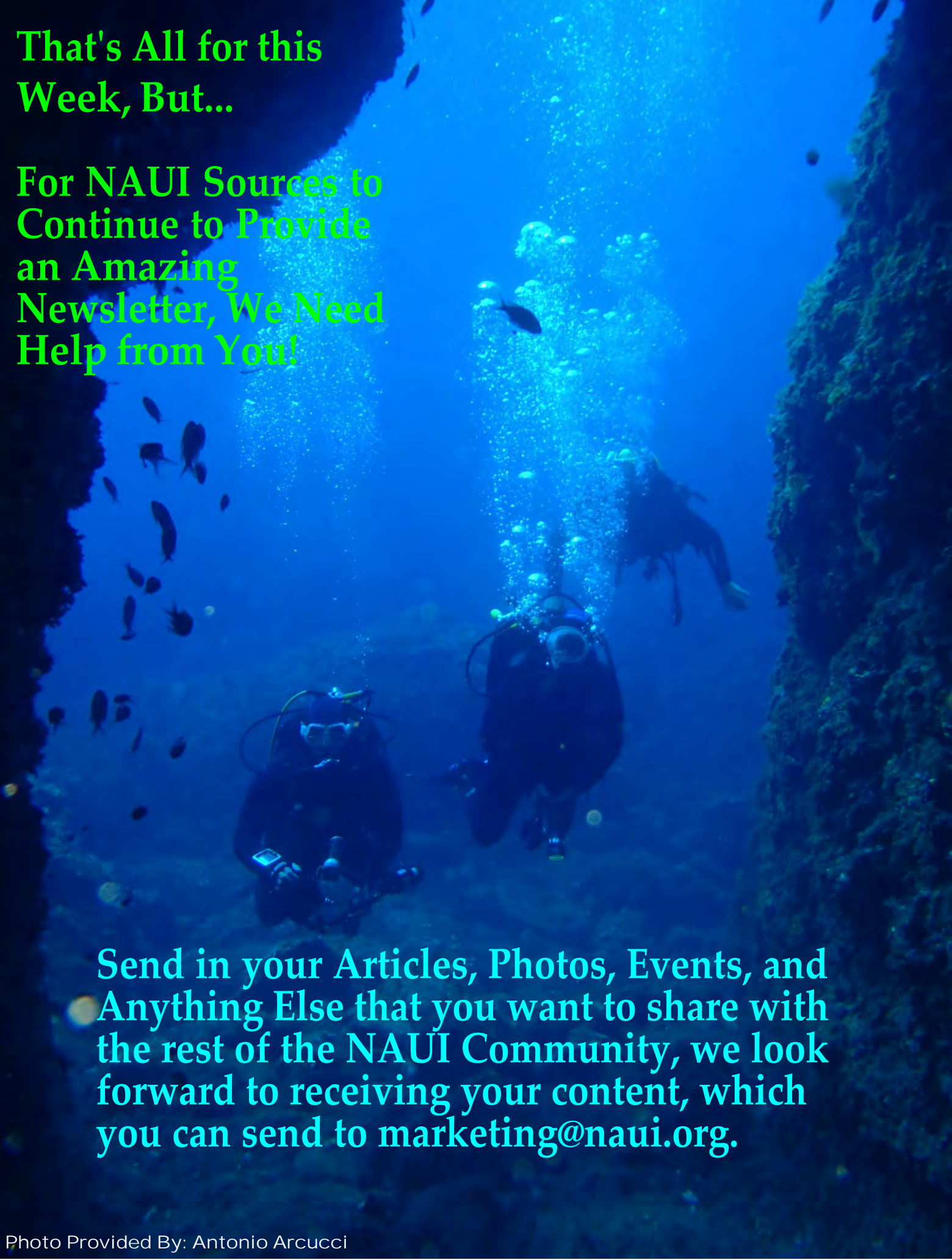
Looking for a career change? Are you looking for a NAUI Dive Professional? This is the place to go.

Posting career opportunities is simple. All you need to do is to email the job title, description, location and who interested members should contact to [marketing@naui.org](mailto:marketing@naui.org) and we will get the message out to NAUI members.

<https://www.naui.org/careers/>







**That's All for this  
Week, But...**

**For NAUI Sources to  
Continue to Provide  
an Amazing  
Newsletter, We Need  
Help from You!**

**Send in your Articles, Photos, Events, and  
Anything Else that you want to share with  
the rest of the NAUI Community, we look  
forward to receiving your content, which  
you can send to [marketing@nau.org](mailto:marketing@nau.org).**