

# NAUI SOURCES

Dive Safety Through Education

November 11th, 2021 Edition

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Cover Photo By: Dan Orr



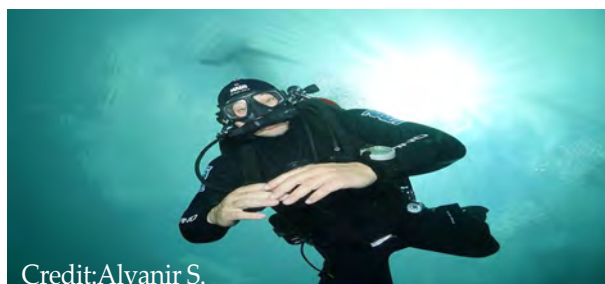
Please Note:

All Photos Used in this Newsletter are From NAUI Members!

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Credit:Alvanir S.

# 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 NAUI Members diving. 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 **Dan Orr** for the submission of this photo.

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



**Sunrise over Guadalupe**

# The Adventure of the SY Blowing Bubbles : Beware the Ghost-net!

Captain log: October 11th, 2021

Location: Canary Islands, Puerto San Miguel, South Tenerife, Atlantic Ocean

The crew is still trying to wrap their heads around the momentum of Mother Nature's volcanic eruption, during our visit to the island of La Palma (as discussed in Sources October 14th Issue). Having moved on, and wound up diving in Bajonita, a bay located in the south of the island Tenerife, with our on-board guests, Geert and Didier, we encountered several ghost-nets.

## What are ghost-nets?

As I write this log, I notice that Halloween is coming up, but believe me, this is NOT your average Halloween story! Ghost-nets are fishing nets that are lost during use!

Several causes for this to happen can be:

- detachment of the surface buoys needed to recover the nets
- displacement of the nets due to storms
- detachment of the marker lines to recover/find back the nets
- sudden breaking up of the net in several pieces (bad quality or too long in use)

The problem with ghost-nets is that they 'keep on fishing'. As long as they stay in the water, they keep on trapping fish and so keep on killing fish uselessly. They also can pose a danger to scuba divers. As the nets can be freely floating around in the ocean, a scuba diver can be badly surprised by a floating net, being dragged by current in any direction and ending up entangling the diver in the ghost-net! It can quickly become a very dangerous situation, in which you need your dive knife, and you need to know how to handle it.





## The Adventure of the SY Blowing Bubbles: Beware the Ghost-Net!

A good practice run on your next training dive, (or ask your local NAUI dive center/dive instructor) would be to simulate an entanglement situation with some fishing line or a piece of fishing net and cut yourself free, but make sure you have a back up diver/supervisor with you, to make sure that your simulation stays a simulation and doesn't end up being a real emergency.

### Back to our ghost-nets in Tenerife:

During many of our scuba dives we encountered floating nets but also steel man-made fish traps (box sized or circular). Normally these fish traps are lowered to the bottoms of the sea for several hours to catch fish or even crabs/lobsters (such as seen on the National Geographic series Deadliest Catch). As the fisherman need to recuperate these traps after soaking them for hours on the ocean-bed, they mark them with surface makers, buoys or even GPS trackers. The problem here is that these markers, trackers can get stolen, leaving the fish-trap 'forever' on the bottom of the ocean! As one fish will enter the trap and finally will die inside of pure starvation, the next scavenger fish will come in to eat the remains of the first fishy victim and guess what, the same fate occurs and the circle continues! The fish-trap will never stop killing ocean-life needlessly.

Yet, there is another point to consider: the value of the fish-trap! As scuba divers, we could simply destroy the fish-trap and be done with it. But the fishermen do have a life to live and need to earn money to provide food to their families, they will need to replace the lost fish-traps somehow, either they'll need to construct new ones or buy them. But there may be an alternative option.



And yes, that is exactly where we come in. As scuba divers on-board SY Blowing Bubbles, we carry special safety devices like the 'Nautilus Lifeline' (Marine Rescue GPS). With this device, we were able to send out a GPS tracking signal, to find these lost fish-traps. After finding the lost fish-traps, we can easily 'mark' their position with our Marine Rescue GPS and restore the value of the fish-trap by handing the GPS coordinates to the local fishermen, who then can recapture the fish-trap (but all of this was not done before we had 'closed' the entrance of the fish-trap so it would immediately stop killing ocean life). The fishermen were extremely happy with our GPS donation and in return, not only some happy smiles but also some "dive bellies" were later being filled with some delicious fish, back on-board the SY Blowing Bubbles, using our barbecue! A win-win story! And as far as ghost-nets go, get some training with your local NAUI dive centre or instructor and get a proper dive knife to join you on your future dives as fishing lines, ghost-nets and more are never too far away from us scuba divers.

# Notes from the Road to Guadalupe



Historical Diving Society (HDS)

Annual Fundraising Trip #1

Guadalupe Island, Mexico

Dan Orr

Since 2005, the Historical Diving Society ([www.hds.org](http://www.hds.org)) has offered a fundraising trip to Guadalupe Island, Mexico to dive (in cages, of course) with Great White Sharks. In 2021, two back-to-back trips were offered, October 5-10 & 10-15, 2021. Each year, with the exception of the pandemic year 2020, Ed Stetson ([www.stetsondiving.com](http://www.stetsondiving.com)) puts together trips to Guadalupe Island, Mexico to cage dive with the Great White Sharks. Ed Stetson generously donates the proceeds of these trips to the Historical Diving Society for publishing the Journal of Diving History.

Guadalupe Island, a Mexican Biosphere Reserve, is located approximately 200 nautical miles southwest of Ensenada, Mexico in the Pacific Ocean and has the largest identified population of Great White Sharks in the world. The dive operators visiting the island have, over the years, identified and named more than 380 different individual Great White Sharks that have been seen and recorded around the island.

This year, the first trip was organized by Captain (ret) Frank Butler, a former U.S. Navy SEAL who is now a surgeon working with the Department of Defense's acclaimed Joint Trauma System. This particular trip was originally scheduled for 2020 but was cancelled when the Mexican Government closed Guadalupe Island due to the pandemic. When the Mexican Government eased their restrictions for Guadalupe Island in 2021, the trip was back on. The majority of the guests on this trip were Dr. Butler's friends and colleagues, many of whom were retired military and civilian medical professionals and Special Operations veterans with some bringing family members. I was fortunate to be invited to join this exciting and intrepid group of divers who were visiting, arguably, the very best place in the world to see great white sharks.

Those going on these trips to Guadalupe with Nautilus Liveboards ([www.nautilusliveboards.com](http://www.nautilusliveboards.com)) meet in San Diego, California and are shuttled down to Ensenada, Mexico to meet the Nautilus Liveboards vessel, the Belle Amie. In pre-COVID times, guests would meet at the new Nautilus Dive Center in San Diego to be shuttled down to the marina in Ensenada onboard the Nautilus' Shark Express. Due to COVID protocols and procedures, guests are now picked up at designated points in San Diego and are shuttled down in small groups to meet at the Hotel Coral in Ensenada.

The first stop on the journey south was the border crossing at Tijuana, Mexico. At the US/Mexico border, everything (including our luggage) was removed from the shuttle as guests proceed through Mexican customs. The bus was thoroughly inspected and X-rayed. After exiting Mexican Customs, the bus was waiting on the other side. After loading the bus once again, guests settled in for a relaxing 90-minute ride to Ensenada.

As shark diving guests arrived at the Hotel Coral in Ensenada, they met the Nautilus' staff who checked their recent (within 7 days) negative COVID test results, passports, and Mexican tourist visa. The Mexican Tourist Visa is required for all guests going on these trips. After dinner at the hotel restaurant, guests returned to the meeting room for a required COVID rapid antigen test required by Nautilus of all guests. Once the negative results were received, all guests were shuttled to the Ensenada marina to meet the Nautilus Belle Amie. After passing through the marina security checkpoint, guests were enthusiastically greeted by the crew of the Belle Amie who took their luggage directly to their assigned staterooms.

After a welcome drink and some late evening snacks, there was a brief introduction to the Belle Amie by Captain Jon "Shep" Shepard. Following the introduction, guests were escorted to their staterooms. The gentle rocking of the boat made falling asleep easy.

The next day, while the Belle Amie made its way southwest for the 20-hour trip to Guadalupe, some guests worked on their photo equipment while other explored the Belle Amie or simply enjoyed being at sea. The Belle Amie has a huge dive deck with numerous large and open camera tables each with multiple electrical outlets for charging camera batteries, strobes and video lights. For cage diving with Great White Sharks, guests only needed an exposure suit and mask. Breathing gas is provided by surface-supplied air. Due to COVID, each guest is now issued their own regulator 2nd stage. Each 2nd stage has a lanyard for wearing around the neck. Before each cage dive, the guest pauses while a crew member attached the air supply via quick connect/disconnect coupling. In pre-COVID times, guest would share regulator 2nd stages which were disinfected by a Listerine wash before transferring the regulator 2nd stage to another guest. Weights are supplied by the Nautilus. The weights were not on weight belts but are in pouches on special DUI weight harnesses. The weight harnesses are pre-prepared and located on the dive deck with weight harnesses ranging from 30-45 pounds. Considering that cages can be moved around by surface wave action or currents, being as negatively buoyant as you can tolerate is definitely a benefit. The wide shoulder straps helped make the weight harnesses comfortable and the crew would put them on and take them off of you in the water, if necessary. The Belle Amie crew was always there to help you whatever the situation.



*Connecting Diver to Personal Regulator 2nd Stage*



The diving conditions around Guadalupe Island make it the ideal place to see the ocean's apex predator. The water temperature hovers around 70 degrees Fahrenheit/21 degrees Celsius with visibility that often exceeds 100 feet/30 meters. Good exposure protection (wet suits or dry suits) is a must, especially for those who intend to spend as much time as they can underwater.

During the first day at sea, guests participate in a mandatory life jacket orientation and drill as well as introductions of the crew. During that day, the crew conduct a regular fire drill where they deploy and pressurize fire hoses and practice putting out a fire in one of the areas of the ship.



*Life Jacket Drill*

The extremely knowledgeable and versatile crew conducted lectures such as “Cage Diving 101” and “Marine Life 101.” These superb presentations helped guests understand the biology and behavior of marine life, especially the great white sharks. The only shark species seen around Guadalupe are the great white sharks. It is, however, not uncommon to see turtles, schools of yellow fin tuna and pinnipeds (sea lions and elephant seals) in Guadalupe waters.



*Shark/Cage Diving 101 Lectures*



Part of the Cage Diving 101 lecture includes new rules for cage diving in Guadalupe waters. These rules include no cameras or body parts being allowed outside the cage. The divers/photographers in the submersible cages are monitored by the divemaster assigned to each cage. For the surface cages, anyone violating these rules will be given a chance to correct their behavior before being asked to exit the cages. If there are repeated offenses, the diver/photographer risks losing their cage privileges.

Late in the afternoon on the first day, Guadalupe Island comes into view looming on the horizon. This is always an exciting time for Isla Guadalupe looks tailor made for great white sharks. Shrouded in mist with a spit of land at the end of the island looking just like a shark fin!!

As the sun sets, the Belle Amie approached the shelter of Guadalupe's Spanish Cove finally dropping anchor at about 8:00 PM. Shortly after dropping anchor, the crew went about putting the five specially designed stainless steel shark cages in the water. Two cages are secured at the surface while three submersible cages (one starboard, one port and one in the center of the stern) are prepared. These submersible cages take three guests to a depth of 24 feet.



*Belle Amie with Shark Cages  
(from Nautilus Liveaboards' website)*

Ed Stetson works with the Belle Amie divemasters to divide guests into groups of three for dives in the submersible cages. Only certified divers are permitted to make dives in the submersible cages. Non-certified divers are restricted to time in the two surface cages. That does not present a problem for the non-certified divers since there is more than enough surface action to keep anyone happy. Places in the two surface cages are on a first-come basis and each surface cage can accommodate four divers each. Each certified diver has three scheduled submersible trips per day.

All divers breathe through regulators with hoses coming from the surface. In the highly unlikely event that there would be a problem with breathing gas from the surface, each submersible cage has an independent emergency air supply that can be activated by the divemaster assigned to each submersible cage and, as a secondary back up, there are at least two filled scuba cylinders in each submersible cage each with multiple second stages. Along with preparing the five cages for diving, the crew places the two wrangling platforms at the corners of the dive deck. These wrangling platforms allow a crew member on each to cast a large piece of frozen tuna tied to a float by a short piece of hemp rope. The crew members cast and retrieve these pieces of tuna throughout the day in order to attract the attention of great white sharks helping to bring them in closer to the stern of the Belle Amie and the cages.

The two surface cages are open from 6:30 AM to 6:00 PM while the submersible cages began scheduled descents at 8:00 AM and end at 4:00 PM.

Before sunrise (5:00 AM) on the first diving day, guests are invited to watch what the crew refers to as the “Tuna Massacre.” This is where the crew prepares approximately 600 lbs./273 kg of frozen yellowfin tuna that they purchase locally in Ensenada. This is done in assembly line fashion. One crew member uses a chain saw to cut the frozen tuna into sections while another drills holes in the tuna section while yet another attaches a section of hemp rope to the tuna section. These tuna sections will be attached to a polypropylene rope and float to be used during “shark wrangling.”



*Tuna Massacre  
(Crew member, Pedro, on the chain saw)*

As the sun rose on Guadalupe Island on the first day of diving, there was a flurry of activity as divers queued up for the surface cages and teams of divers readied themselves and their camera gear for descent in the submersible cages.



*Crew member on the wrangling platform*



Just before the surface cages were opened, the crew started “shark wrangling.” Wrangling is when you have frozen tuna sections tied with pieces of hemp rope (biodegradable and easily broken if grabbed by a shark) to a float and polypropylene rope that is thrown out into the water by a crewmember standing on one of two elevated wrangling platforms. This practice was not allowed until recently and, with the proper permits from the Mexican government, is conducted in such a way that it increases the possibility of shark sightings for guests in all the cages as well as those standing on the boat deck without endangering the welfare of the shark.

Things got off to an exciting start with large great white sharks taking the frozen tuna from the “wranglers” and breaching before the first diver got into a cage. This was a sure indication that this was going to be a great trip! By 8:00 AM, there had been multiple great white shark breaches!



*Wrangling*



*Great White Shark Breaches*

As the first divers scrambled to get into the surface cages, they reported seeing two great whites below and behind the boat. The three submersible cages are on a staggered schedule descending in rotation about 10 minutes apart. This meant that there were cages ascending and descending almost constantly. Cage movement may have a positive effect on the great whites giving the divers more opportunities to see these apex predators in action.



I had the good fortune to be partnered in the cage with Colonel (ret) Kevin O'Connor and Charleston attorney Bill Rusher. We were very compatible cage buddies, helping each other see sharks coming from different directions and giving each other lots of space to maneuver around in the cages. Dr. O'Connor, the former Command Surgeon for the U.S. Army's elite Delta Force, is now President Joe Biden's personal physician and has an office in the White House. He received a call from the President one evening asking how the trip was going.

The photo opportunities on this trip from all the cages, as well as from the boat deck, were some of the very best any of the guests had ever seen. It's hard to believe that the experiences could be getting better each year. This trip was my 21st trip to Guadalupe with Nautilus Liveboards and it can be said that the Great White Shark experiences ranked with the best any of the guests had ever experienced. As the days of diving and shark sightings of five or more progressed, the mantra seemed to be, "Every cage, every diver, every dive." Everyone had some "up close and personal" photo opportunities of great whites exhibiting different types of behavior. Most often the sharks were in twos or threes with regular sighting of 5 or more sharks coming within visual range of the cages. Sometimes, there would be so much action going on around the submersible cages that guests would literally get dizzy spinning around trying not to miss any of the sharks swimming around the cages! There were also a couple of occasions where curious great whites would bump or slap their tails against the cages.

Days Two and Three continued to have exceptional great white shark activity with even more breaches and close encounters.



*Bill, Dan, Kevin*



*Surface cages had lots of activity*



*Great White Under the Boat*



*Great White Shark*



*Typical Expression from a Cage Dive  
(Dr. Frank Butler)*

Trips on the Belle Amie and all other Nautilus Liveboards vessels are always memorable. The captain and crew define professionalism and are always finding new ways to make the experiences onboard second to none. The staterooms are large and very comfortable each with its own air conditioning and the meals are a delight. The food was so good that guests truly looked forward to each and every meal.

One night, they even had a special dessert birthday cake to celebrate Dr. Sherry Wren's birthday!

During the return to Ensenada, the crew put together a video presentation with photographs and video clips taken by guests. This video was shared with the guests with each guest able to download it on a USB drive.

During our evenings in Guadalupe, guests thoroughly enjoyed each other's company as they told stories about their great white shark encounters that day and showed spectacular images (still and video) taken from both the cages and the dive deck. Guests sharing their images and talking about photography gave all of us an opportunity to learn how to improve our underwater photography and videography. Guests also shared their non-diving experiences and expertise making this one of the most informative trip any of us could remember. One notable guest, retired Navy SEAL Commander Mark McGinnis, told us about his founding of the SEAL Legacy Foundation ([www.seallegacy.org](http://www.seallegacy.org)) and the fantastic work they do for members of the Navy SEAL community and their families.

Each new day at Guadalupe Island proved to be just as exciting as the last with constant shark activity both on the surface and below. From sunup to sundown, everyone was clamoring to get in the surface and submersible cages. Whenever there was an open spot, it was taken almost immediately. The mantra, "Every cage, every diver, every dive" continued throughout this trip.

Besides the photographic opportunities underwater, those guests on the surface were treated to some spectacular displays of great white activity. On past trips, there would be an occasional partial breach by a great white intent on getting the frozen tuna. On this trip, there were multiple partial breaches every single day! Guests had to make a tough choice, whether to take photos underwater or on the surface. Exciting photo opportunities were everywhere!!



*Dan, Kevin and Frank  
("It was a great trip!")*





*Ed Stetson, Frank Butler, Jeff Butler, Kevin O'Connor, Bob Mabry, Nick Mabry, Bill Rusher, John Gandy, Parker Hu, Rindi Uhlich, Brooke Clark-Keating, Jeanette Gant, John Holcomb, Martin Schreiber, Stacy Shackelford, Haley Walker, Rebecca Walker, Mark McGinnis, Reagan McGinnis, Mike Gower, Dan Orr, Jennifer Gurney, Cody Patton, Doug Patton, Rob Patton, Ryan Patton, Scott Patton, Scotty Patton, Sherry Wren, Joe Acilio, Bree, Ernesto*

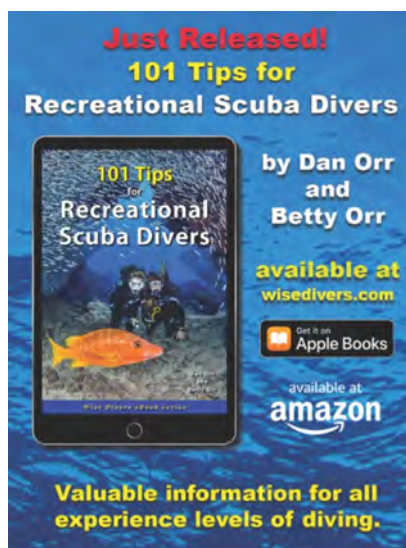
Once we docked at Ensenada, the port officials inspected the boat and guest documentation before the crew was allowed to move all guest luggage to the awaiting bus. After saying our goodbyes to the crew, those returning to San Diego boarded the bus. The bus made a stop at the Hotel Coral in Ensenada to drop off the Nautilus representative meeting the incoming guests and those of us staying for the next trip. While the incoming guests began to arrive, I was there to help check their documentation and get them organized for the next trip to Guadalupe Island.

The outgoing guests returned to San Diego with Ed Stetson who had a previous obligation that did not allow him to remain onboard for the second HDS fundraising trip. He asked me to help with this group along with his brother, also a Dan, who was part of the incoming group.

I looked forward to returning to Guadalupe with the next trip but I honestly not imagine how it could compare with this trip in terms, not only shark activity, but the good times and fun that was had by everyone. I don't believe that I had enjoyed myself so much on any other trip. I will borrow a term from the outlaw Cole Younger who would comment on anything that was truly unique and memorable, "this trip was a WONDERMENT!"

### ADDENDUM

Betty and I have been working for the past 9 months on a book project, 101 Tips for Recreational Divers. Today is its official release!





# Join Us for the Next NAUI Talk

NAUI Talk is a 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!

As we will be running the Member Updates next month, there will be only one NAUI TALK in November.

The next session will be on Tuesday, November 16th at 2 pm EST, where we will feature "Reasons to get people to come into your business!"

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:**

Get them to choose to come to you!

What makes you stand out from the rest?

What is the draw?

Okay, you got them into your business, now what?

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! Please click here to sign up: Register in advance for this webinar:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_eYoPCiNBRwOHtpZDbsv\\_6g](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_eYoPCiNBRwOHtpZDbsv_6g)

## Upcoming NAUI Talks:

Websites, how can you do this better!

Product Placement in your business!

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

Click Here: <https://www.youtube.com/c/NAUITV>



# Your Invitation To The NAUI Member Update!

**Be up to date with the great work of NAUI!**

The annual member updates are a tradition of NAUI, and this year they will be online. Traditionally, the updates were hosted at DEMA, and then the NAUI Regional Representatives would pass on the information to members in their areas. This year, we are bringing a new approach so that any member can log in and see the presentation directly. Following these presentations, our Regional Representatives will pass on the information as usual.

Join us for the official presentation of the NAUI Member Update 2021 on November 9th at 9 am at Eastern Time.

NAUI Member Update will be presented to you by Angelo Fiore, the NAUI Vice President of Sales and Marketing, and will provide updates in the following areas:

- NAUI 2020 / 2021 year-end.
- COVID and its impact on NAUI Headquarters, Services Centers, and members.
- 2020 versus 2021.
- Financial Update for 2020 and 2021.
- Training Updates.
- CORE continues to evolve.
- NAUI App Updates.
- What was new for 2021.
- Coming in 2022.
- Question and Answer session.

For those unable to attend, we have recorded the session and will place it on NAUI TV for you to watch at your convenience.

# Annual General Meeting & Membership Renewal

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## Annual General Meeting 2021 Date Set

We are pleased to announce that we will again be offering members the Annual General Meeting and Awards Ceremony on-line this year.

This format gives members worldwide the opportunity to join one of the different sessions and stay tuned with the great work of NAUI Worldwide.

Be sure to join us in December at one of the presentations held on the second week of December.

### December 7th at 6 pm Eastern Time

This is for our Brazil members and it will be translated.

*Register Here*

### December 11th at 8 am Eastern Time:

*Register Here*

### December 11th at 8 pm Eastern Time:

*Register Here*

Be sure to RSVP your spot when the invites go out!

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## 2022 Membership Renewal Time!

This past year worldwide, we have seen some great works in providing new and improved services to our members and their students, and there is so much more to come in the next year.

If you have not already done so, please take the time to renew your membership for the coming year and continue enjoying the benefits of your NAUI membership today!

The process is simple. One method is to log into the NAUI website at [nau.org](http://nau.org). After you log in, you will see the renew button near the top right of the screen.

For other options or assistance, please contact your service center or member services.



## NAUI Hero Certification Card Program

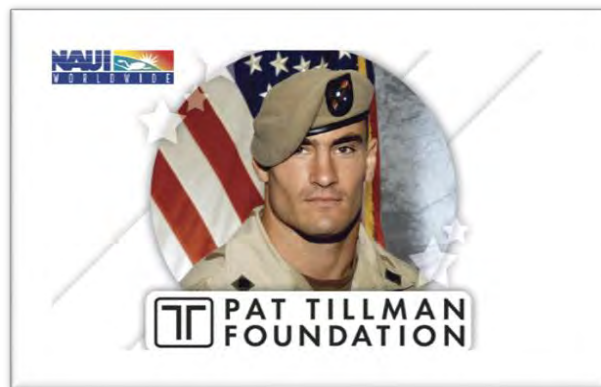
VA Affiliates and NAUI Dive Centers,

NAUI is proud to announce two new NAUI Armed Forces Initiatives: the NAUI Hero Certification Card Program™ and Department of Defense SkillBridge Program. We welcome you and your teams to share these programs with your students, customers, and community so we can give back to our nation's heroes through these donation campaigns and deliberate partnerships.

### NAUI Hero Certification Card Program™

The **NAUI Hero Certification Card Program™** is a year-round campaign built on giving back to non-profits dedicated to our nation's greatest heroes-past and present. Each quarter, NAUI will present 1000 limited edition certification cards to all NAUI members for a \$10 donation at checkout. All proceeds will be made on your behalf at the end of each quarter to the non-profit or foundation. Our goal is to donate \$10,000 each quarter...are you in?!

The Pat Tillman Foundation Edition is the first ever NAUI Hero Certification Card. [The Pat Tillman Foundation](#) provides resources and educational scholarship support to Active Duty Service Members, veterans, and their spouses. In 2002, Pat Tillman left his NFL career with the Arizona Cardinals to serve his country. In 2004, Pat Tillman was killed in action in Afghanistan while serving with the 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment. His family and friends established the Pat Tillman Foundation to honor and carry forward Pat's dedication by helping leaders reach their fullest potential through the Tillman Scholars Program.



"To err on the side of  
passion is human and right  
and the only way I'll live."

PAT TILLMAN





### **NAUI and the Department of Defense (DoD) SkillBridge Partnership**

On June 1, 2021, the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense authorized NAUI to participate in the DoD SkillBridge Program. The SkillBridge Program is an opportunity for Service members to gain valuable civilian work experience through specific industry training, apprenticeships, or internships during their last 180 days of service.

**What does this mean for you?** SkillBridge is an opportunity for you to access and leverage the world's most highly trained and motivated workforce at **no cost** for up to 180 days. Service members who participate in SkillBridge receive their military compensation and benefits, while you, our NAUI Approved VA Testing Centers, will provide the training and work experience. Our internship allows service members to use your G.I. Bill® to become a NAUI Dive professional at one of our 65 NAUI VA approved testing centers around the world. After the service members become a NAUI dive professional they can stay and work for the NAUI VA approved testing center to learn how to run a business, learn about sales and gear maintenance, or we can place them on a liveaboard in the Caribbean or Bahamas. We have 1000 positions around the world where they can use your new license and experience to start a new chapter and/or just explore something they've never done before. If they end up liking what they are doing at their specific location, there may be an opportunity for them to be hired on after their internship is completed (all based on the need for each location). Through the SkillBridge and NAUI partnership, you can volunteer to help Service members bridge the gap between their end of service and the beginning of their civilian careers.

Reach out to Ray Reneau, Director of Armed Forces Relations and Training, @ [creneau@naui.org](mailto:creneau@naui.org) for more information about both campaigns!

Happy Diving!

## 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/>



Credit: @wahyumul

## 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/>



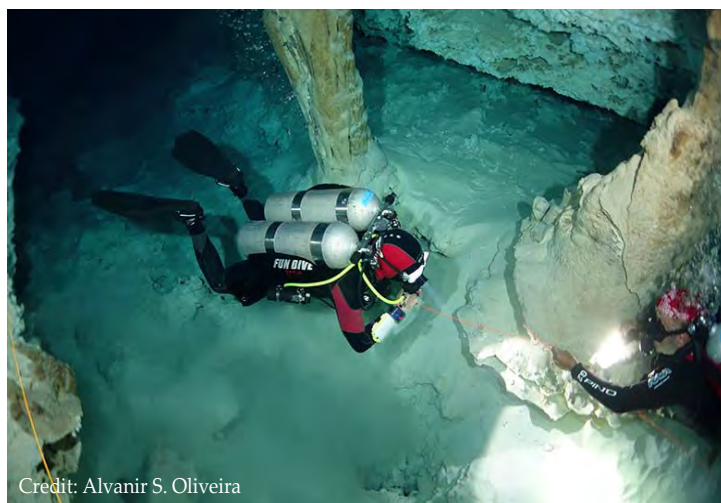
Credit: Carolyn Wagner

## 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/>



Credit: Alvanir S. Oliveira





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).