

Stuart Cove's

REVIEW

volume 3 issue 1

Spring 1997

Diving to the Extreme

WALL FLYING™

Gives Dive South Ocean Guests the Adrenaline Rush of A Lifetime!

Combine the exotic beauty of Nassau's crystal blue waters with a high intensity adrenaline rush produced from high speed underwater encounters aboard a state-of-the-art underwater propulsion vehicle, and you have the ingredients for Stuart Cove's latest high voltage underwater activity - Wall Flying™!

Already known worldwide for its unparalleled and heart-stopping Shark Adventure dives, the team at Dive South Ocean earlier this year commissioned a fleet of Dive Propulsion Vehicles (DPV's) designed to take guests effortlessly over the deep blue of bottomless canyons, through colorful coral gardens and around endless schools of underwater creatures.

"Our customers come back year after year asking for more - more fun, more excitement and more adventure," says Stuart Cove. "Well, wait until they try Wall Flying™ - its going to blow them away."

While many resorts offer interesting diving, Dive South Ocean is the first and only resort to provide DPV's to diving guests as a regular option.

Dive South Ocean's squadron of DPV's debuted in early October with 14 custom-built Apollo DPV's. A limit of 12 divers can participate in Wall Flying™ Adventures on board a dedicated dive boat that will take divers to remote sites along the world famous Tongue of the Ocean.

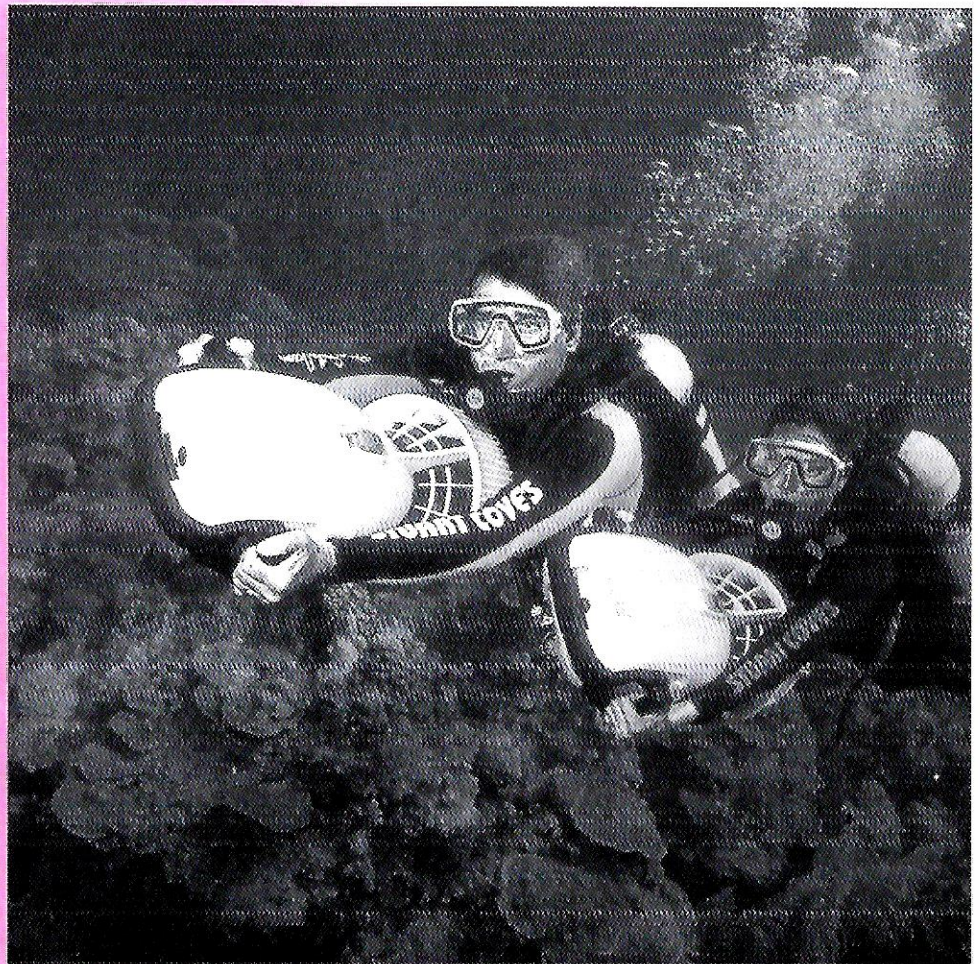
Wall Flying™ divers receive special training on DPV operation, are provid-

ed appropriate safety equipment and will have a chance to have their adventure captured on videotape to permanently capture the memory.

What's most exciting about Wall Flying™ is that it allows divers to not only try something new, but also try something that until now has been reserved for technical or scientific divers - the use of propulsion vehicles. Our program is not only safe and innovative, it's also the only one available right now.

Ocean Watch Bahamas Ltd.

The Water and Sewage Corporation of the Bahamas has contacted Ocean Watch to donate one of their water barges to sink, creating an artificial reef. All the water used in New Providence is brought from Andros island three times a week. Andros is just 25 miles from New Providence, a wreck like this one will be very interesting to explore because of the number of swim throughways.



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“LIVE” after Breakfast

Dive South Ocean Resort Teams Up with FOX After Breakfast Morning Show for Live Underwater Broadcasts!

Dive South Ocean, well known for technical support for underwater film and television productions in the Caribbean, was instrumental in providing support and services for November's live underwater broadcast on the national FOX After Breakfast morning program. The pair of underwater segments featured live interaction between Stuart and Michelle Cove 50 feet underwater with on-set talent and Gladys Knight at the FOX Studios in New York.

The two days of live broadcasts featured a live shark feeding segment by “Road Warrior” Phil Keoghan and a tour of an underwater wreck, the Bahama Mama. “There were people watching this program who thought this couldn't be done, but we did it - in a big way,” said Mike Walter, Vice President of Network Engineering and Operations for FOX.

The technology necessary to establish a live underwater satellite link required some special equipment to be created according to Walter, who accompanied the production team to Nassau for the shoot. “We developed a new audio mixing unit that allowed multiple headsets to be filtered together and then fed to New York, It worked incredibly well and Phil could carry on several conversations with those on the set in New York.

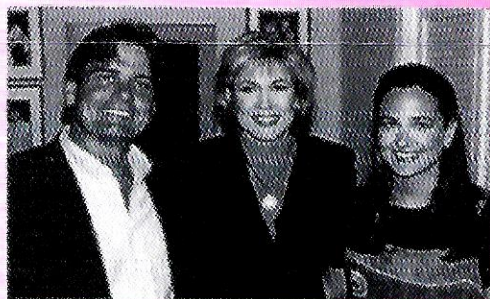
“It was a stressful film shoot because it was live; there was no one to say: cut, do it over. FOX's segment for water week was a huge success. The FOX staff complimented the Dive South Ocean crew for its ability to provide technical assistance for shots that ordinarily would have been difficult. It isn't easy doing video, let alone video where talent is surrounded by sharks, Dive South Ocean's video and photo lab manager Pamela Christman provided the shots people will be talking about for some time.

What's Been Happening?

We have resurrected an old boat called “Alien Orders.” The boat has been with the organization for more than 15 years. This 32-foot V-hull has been completely refitted for diving with a new outboard engine and plenty of room for small groups of 10 divers.

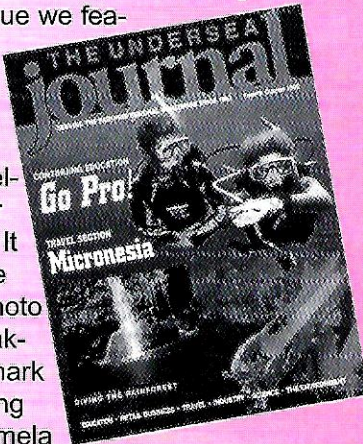
Stuart was so pleased with the new Alien Orders, he immediately sent the 44-foot flattop dive boat Black Coral into a similar refit. Upon her return, Black Coral sported a new deck and twin outboard motors. The original diesels allowed her to travel at only eight knots, now with the new engines she cruises at 19 knots.

Maybe you happened to see Michelle



Cove on the Leeza Gibbons Show which featured women with dangerous professions. Michelle was one of ten ladies that were either stunt persons or worked with dangerous animals. A segment on TV show EXTRA also featured Michelle and her shark feeding duties.

Last issue we featured our cover boy, but this issue we have to celebrate our cover girl. It seems like our Fin Photo staff is making their mark in the diving arena. Pamela Christman photographed the cover of



PADI's *The Undersea Journal*. Featured in the photo are our own PADI Instructor Mark Holmes and underwater photographer and videographer Gudrun Licht.

A group of students from St. Andrews Boys College in Canada, where Stuart attended, visited Dive South Ocean in early November as part of their environmental studies. They helped install several mooring buoys and did maintenance on the existing buoys. The trip was so educational and so much fun that their teachers are considering making this trip an annual event.

Speed II Brings America's “Sweetheart” to Dive South Ocean

When Sandra Bullock, star of the new thriller “Speed II” came to Dive South Ocean for a swim with the sharks it got more than a few hearts thumping. This past December Sandra Bullock came to DSO to complete some important scenes for the movie sequel.

The underwater scenes were originally shot in St. Martin and Saba, but were moved to Nassau because of poor visibility in those locations. After the first day of shooting, the film rushes were reviewed and a continuity problem became very “clear.” The water around Nassau is so clear, the footage shot could not be matched to previous underwater segments. So a little Hollywood magic had to be created. Divers would suspend themselves above the camera spilling sand in front of the lens to create the backscatter and turbidity of the other locations.

Spring 1997

Divers Raise Over \$20,000 in Scuba Charity Event!

During the last quarter of '96 divers from all over the U.S. converged on Dive South Ocean in a fund raising event for the fifth annual "Diving for Life Gay and Lesbian Scuba Jamboree."

Nine regional lesbian & gay dive clubs joined to make this year's Scuba Jamboree the most successful ever. When everything was tallied up, \$20,000 was raised to distribute to men's and women's health related charities.

During the seven day event participants enjoyed diving with DSO and participated in the PADI Shark Awareness Program taught by Stuart himself. Other highlights of the week included a Bahamian Drag Show performed by members of the local gay and lesbian community and Comedy Night with Jaffee Cohen. Cohen known for his comic performances on Letterman, HBO and Comedy Central was flown in for the night.

Many dive industry stakeholder groups from manufacturing, retail, training, publications and travel were represented as corporate sponsors. American Airlines is also a major sponsor offering discounted fares. According to Stuart Cove, "this was an amazing week, not only did we have our largest group of the year, but to be part of this fund raising event was very special." Cove went on to add, "Diving For Life also taught us a lot about ourselves and the gay and lesbian community." This was DSO's first experience with hosting such an event. The Diving For Life members were great to be around and the entire week was a lot of fun.

Anyone interested in more information about the Diving For Life Gay and Lesbian Scuba Jamboree for next year can contact them at 212-332-9199, or send email to DFLJAMBO@AOL.COM



Nassau Marriot Packages Now Available

This spring Stuart Cove's Dive South Ocean began offering dive and hotel packages with the Nassau Marriot Resort located on Cable Beach. This 860 room beachfront resort offers guests eight restaurants and the Caribbean's largest casino - right on

the property. Dozens of other restaurants and night spots are within walking distance on the Cable Beach strip. For divers, Stuart Cove's shuttle bus service operates complimentary round trip transfers twice daily for the short 25 minute ride to the dive shop.

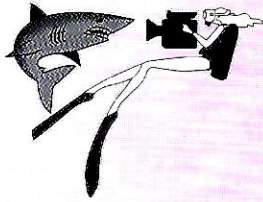
South Ocean Golf & Beach Resort

The South Ocean Golf & Beach Resort continues to upgrade and improve its service. In October, Mr. Paul Wagner was named as interim General Manager. A long time hotel consultant, Mr. Wagner's top priorities are to continue improvements on the hotel grounds and property. The golf course is now back in excellent shape and the oceanfront rooms and pavilion have been

freshly painted. Cable television is being installed in the standard rooms and new in-room security lock boxes are being installed in all the rooms. Mr. Wagner has contributed a lot in a short period of time making South Ocean a great choice for divers who want to get away from the hustle of downtown Nassau.

STUART COVE'S

Dive South Ocean



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Juniors Dive Free with Stuart Cove!

Stuart Cove's Dive South Ocean is well-known for providing innovative programs that are widely embraced by divers and non-divers around the world. The new "Jrs. Dive Free" program is the first of its kind among dive travel resorts and promises to build even more interest in dive vacations to Nassau.

According to the Professional Association of Diving Instructors (PADI), the number of junior divers (ages 12-15) receiving scuba certifications has doubled in the last two years. This total promises to increase as more and more young people look for high excitement, "extreme adventure" vacation opportunities. As a result of the growing trend, beginning immediately, any certified Junior Diver at Dive South Ocean dives for free when accompanied by a paying certified parent or guardian over the age of 18.

"The future health and growth of the recreational scuba diving and travel industries lies in young people," notes Stuart Cove, owner of Dive South Ocean. "By getting young people excited about dive travel now, they will continue to dive and enhance their diving experiences as they get older. Our research shows that young people play an important role in determining travel destinations their parents ultimately select. We want to make that choice even easier for parents with young divers. That's what "Jrs. Dive Free" is all about."

The Jrs. Dive Free" program joins other popular Dive South Ocean offerings including the widely praised "Shark Adventure™" and Wall Flying™ dives. While junior divers are eligible to participate in these high intensity dives, specialty dives are not included in the promotion.

Call Us at (800) 879-9832
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