

# >>BLUE:RIBBON<<

## NEWSLETTER

### The New Divemaster

#### Course Explained

*A little information about the new PADI Divemaster Course*

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### Low Season Rates

*Just because it is Low Season, doesn't mean the diving is bad!*

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## WELCOME TO OUR FIRST BLUE RIBBON NEWSLETTER.

Low season is on its way in, but that hasn't stopped the great diving. Water temperatures are getting warmer, the visibility has been great, and we've been finding more and more unusual critters.

May was a month for Seahorses. At our new secret dive site called Dalaruan Wrecks, we have found the Mecca for Seahorses. On our last dive, we managed to find 8 different Seahorses, mostly Thorny Seahorses. Also we are finding a lot of rare critters. Flamboyant cuttlefish are being regularly spotted in Sabang Bay, and Ornate Ghost Pipefish are abundant.

We've had a lot of Students in May, from Discover Scubas right up to Divemaster. Actually if you are here in June you might get to meet one of our three new Divemaster Trainees, learning the ropes of the dive business.

Also we have been exploring! We have teamed up with a Dive Shop in Maracaban, which is located minutes away from Chicken Feather Island. We are going to be start running trips over there to see something new, it is also very close to Anilao, so we can start diving over there as well. Maracaban Island has a lot of sites surrounding it, including Sharkies, where last dive we found White and Black Reef Sharks. We were slightly upset when we got back onto the boat, as the boatmen had spotted a lone Whale Shark swim under the boat when we were under.



Also very close to Maracaban Island is Chicken Feather Island, where the Hot Springs are located. Volcanic activity causes a lot of Sulphur Dioxide to bubble from an area, which even though poisonous is teeming with life. Just be careful, as there are Stingrays in the area, I didn't see one, and tried to pick up a stick, which turned out to be one of their tails! Luckily, it was nicer to me than Steve Irwin's...

### Certified Divers in May

#### Open Water

HAROON SAQIB  
AUDE C. SOUFFLET  
FANNY P. GIBERT  
BJÖRN STEINKE  
FANNY ARDOIN  
JEFFREY HEGBREG  
NATHAN J. JENSEN  
CHARLENE S. RUAN  
NICHOLAS M. LOPEZ  
TRACY CHEUNG

#### Advanced Open Water

CHARLENE S. RUAN  
NICHOLAS M. LOPEZ  
TRACY CHEUNG  
IRENE MIHOS  
KIM J. PERKS  
JENNY A. GALITO  
MATTIAS L. TERNEHALL  
MARC SILVA  
WIEBKE BINDER

#### Enriched Air Nitrox

JENNY A. GALITO  
MATTIAS L. TERNEHALL  
MARC SILVA  
WIEBKE BINDER

#### Rescue Diver

ANDY CADBY

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### Verde Island Trips

*We keep going back to Verde Island and never get bored. Recently we went, and the visibility wasn't that great on the Surface, but as soon as we got to 25m, we hit a thermocline, where the water turned to gin! 40m+ visibility. The Jacks were pairing up and mating, and we saw Tuna causing major havoc on the reef.*

### New Divemaster Course

A lot of divers decided to do a lot of Specialities after they have done their Advanced Course to increase their knowledge of diving.

Whilst this is a good idea, I think the best thing to do is your Divemaster, even if you don't want to be professional. You practice a lot of skills and also get to see how a dive shop runs, and see how it is to live the life of a dive professional.

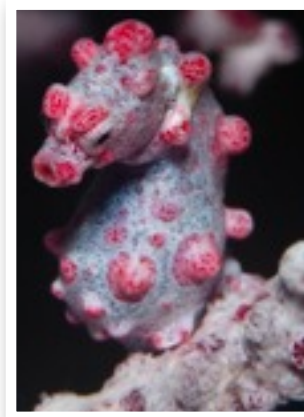
The new Divemaster course is a little easier than the last course, which is a good and a bad thing. It is a good thing as it takes a lot less time to complete, so therefore is a lot more accessible to people that cannot devote months at a time to a course.

I personally think that as they have cut down the knowledge development, to be half as much compared to the Instructor course now, you don't learn as much theory, yet you still get the Encyclopedia of Diving, so you can still

read up more information, which I would highly recommend.

On our Divemaster course, for the amount you spend and the amount of dives you can do, it is a bargain. Baz on his Divemaster did over 70 dives! Spencer did around 90 dives! You end up paying around 300-400 pesos a dive, and learn a lot, and get a professional qualification!

We have got 3 Divemasters for the month of June, Andy is about 1/2 way through as I write this, and we are just about to go exploring a new dive site, that he is going to map as part of his course.



If you are interested in the new Divemaster course and want to learn more information, just send me and Email and I will tell you the details.

## LOW SEASON RATES

	With Own Equipment	With Rental Equipment
1 Dive	1000	1100
6 Dives	5500	6000
Night Dive	1200	1300
Verde Island 3 Dive Trip	4500	4500
Maracaban 2 Dive Trip	3000	3000
Maracaban 2 Day Trip (5 Dives)	8000	8000