



Alberta Adventure Divers Newsletter
June 23, 2013
Cold water dives & warm water diving!

Clear Lake dive report: Tues. pm dives are in full swing – the visibility is great – 20 feet and more. Water temperature is still cool – 50F in the shallower parts, cooler when you are deeper. However, as you see, our future buddies Tara and Tony came swimming with us on the first dive night - when the water temp was 44F. Us divers can tough it up! If you need any gear rentals, email or phone and Christine will prepare it.



Open Water classes: Our June class is 100% Dry Suit divers!! They are the first users of our brand new Whites fusion dry suits. The next OW class starts the July 27 weekend – if you know any people interested, have them contact the store for more details.

Dive Travel: We are planning next winter's dive holiday. I had warned you to save your buttons! We are returning to Fiji – absolutely heaven on earth. Just so there is no misrepresentation, the picture below was not taken in Clear Lake: it was taken in Fiji in 2011. ↓

Fiji: traveling dive buddies – you are invited to join us for the dream trip of a lifetime. A brief outline follows. If this is of interest to you, please contact Connie as we are limited to 10 spaces on the live aboard. Itinerary:

13 FEB 2014 Fly from Edmonton (YEG-YVR-LAX to Fiji). Currently there is a promo price on this flight.

15 FEB 2014 VIP Meet /greet lei upon arrival / baggage handling/ cold minted towels/chilled Fiji Water, Flower Leis

15 FEB 2014 Domestic flight from Nadi to Koro Sun Resort

15 FEB- 22 FEB 2014 **Koro Sun Resort & Rainforest Spa**

for 7 Nights – we have DEMA special pricing at Koro, and our diving is included. It is a beautiful resort in paradise. You can be as busy or as relaxed as you choose to be.

22 FEB 2014 Domestic flight from Savu Savu airport to Nadi airport/ car transfer to Nai'ia

22 FEB- 01 MAR 2014 **NAI'IA CRUISE 7 days** – we were on this live aboard in 2011. The diving is phenomenal, in very warm tropical water. The boat is newly outfitted, the waters are smooth, the food is incredible, and the staff is wonderful. There is no long distance sailing – we are always fairly close to land, although you are too busy diving to go ashore!

01 MAR 2014 International Flight from Nadi to LAX- YVR- YEG (Edmonton)



-this is an all inclusive trip – flights, transfers, meals, and diving
-non-divers: you will love the Koro Sun resort. We are working on an option for you to have a land resort for the week we are on the live aboard.
-Fiji is too far away, and too beautiful a country, to only go for one week. Even after 2 weeks, you will not want to leave!
-Connie has an email with more details and booking information.

More Dive Travel: We love diving in BC, at the West Coast. Recently our dive buddy Jay made a trip to a BC dive resort, and sent a report – see below. One day I will go there, but right now I have no firm plans. If anyone is considering a dive trip, you will enjoy Jay's write up below about diving at the Lund Seaside Inn. Diving here takes less buttons than diving in Fiji.

Clear Lake happenings: Sydney's 100th dive celebration-

Our plane-



Congratulations Sydney.

Sydney is a Master Scuba Diver, she has 100 dives – most of them cold water dives, on dive night at Clear Lake. Pretty impressive, for a 15 year old!



Dive night #3: Waiting out a thunderstorm by the firepit!

After some time sharing dive stories, and dive pictures from the laptop, we had a great dive on Tuesday night (June 18).

The dive trailer will always be out, as you just don't know what the weather will be like at the lake.

See you diving!

Connie and David Faas

Alberta Adventure Divers.

www.albertadivers.ca (780) 842-2882

Enjoy Jay's report below:

West Coast Jewel

I was an avid diver and even Mr. Aquathon 5 years ago when I buddied up with Mark Faas from Wainwright who decided the Jasper river race was actually a race rather than a leisurely float down the river. It's been 9 years since I have dove the West Coast and 15 years since diving the Sunshine Coast. Much of this has been due to other interests and changes in my life. Age has made cold water diving less appealing, my wife and dive buddy only wants to do warm water diving and the challenge to get to places from Ft McMurray has made participation much more difficult.





My wife changed jobs recently so she didn't have the vacation time so I decided to go someplace on my own. It has been awhile since I have been diving on the West Coast but the area offers some of the best diving in the world. I checked my log book and discovered that 3 of my top ten dives have been on the Sunshine Coast near Powell River. May is not known as a good dive month on the West Coast, runoff and visibility make it less appealing but I took the chance.

Much has changed in the past 15 years, Powell River used to have 2 dive stores and now has none. Economics and changes in the lumber industry have reduced the population. I hooked up with Gord owner of Lund Seaside Inn <http://www.lundseasideinn.com>. Gord and Mary Anne are new owners and new dive operators. In fact I was their first diving customer. Their facility however is outstanding and I wondered where was this place when I used to travel to the West Coast.

Not many places in Canada offer all-inclusive. The resort is advertised as a bed and breakfast but has all the amenities a diver and family could ask for. Many divers are limited in their pursuit of their sport as the rest of the family may not be divers. This resort offers something to do for everyone. The rooms are well equipped the same as any four star hotel room. My first day was a little slow as a result of the previous day traveling so we went on a boat tour through Desolation Sound, walked the sandy beaches of Savory Island and spent some time reading and enjoying the ocean view on the deck.

I hooked up with resident dive buddy Nicole who is Gord's daughter and marine biology student. We dove some outstanding dives all nearby with no long boat rides. Iron mines was probably the best with a shear wall into the abyss. The life on the wall was amazing and plentiful. We dove Major Rocks with the seals and sea lions and the visibility was much better than I thought it would be for this time of year. Fall and winter the visibility would be 100ft but even now it was still 50 ft. Even the night dive off the dock provided plenty to see and 30+ ft of visibility. Post diving offered a dip in the hot tub, a beverage and some fine meals including local prawns, crab and other seafood we caught.



Gord offers plenty to do for everyone, he has about a dozen mountain bikes, snorkel gear, two well equipped boats for diving or fishing, canoe's, kayaks or just recline on the deck and enjoy the view. Getting there driving take the ferry from Horseshoe bay and drive up the Sunshine Coast to Lund just north of Powell River. By plane, West Jet flies into Comox. They have made arrangements with a local pub that will pick you up at the airport, take you to the pub for a beverage while you wait to catch the Ferry and Gord will pick you up at the terminal in Powell River.

Lund Sea Side Inn offers world class diving and something to do for everyone. A must go to destination for an "In Canada" vacation especially for land locked Albertans. Check out the Lund Seaside Inn at <http://www.lundseasideinn.com>

Jay Winkelmans