



Alberta Adventure Divers June 26, 2020

Clear Lake is Open for Diving!
Twin Lake as well!
Check out our brand new website!
Lost & Found



Hello dive buddies!! We hope this finds you happy and healthy and enjoying summer! We are excited to share the good news that we will be reopening the dive store on July 2. This is just as exciting as finding the pot of gold on Mermaid Island! We will be taking the next week to prepare the store, staff and sanitation procedures. There will be some changes from the "usual," but we are confident we will be able to provide you with the wonderful experience and dive community you are used to.

A major excitement is that we have a new future dive buddy in the family – Mark and Briana had a baby boy on June 16: Gabriel Joseph. The theme of the baby room is sea life - what an excellent start. What grandma buys a baby a sequined narwhale? Yes I did!



During the Covid inspired shut down, Connie, with a lot of encouragement and help from David and Josie, re-created our dive store website. Please check it out – we have a lot of never before seen pictures. We love the bio's by our pro staff, the lively video on the home page, and the blog – Mark has done some great write-ups about diving in Twin and Clear Lakes in Alberta.

During the shutdown, I have been inspired and educated by many excellent presentations and webinars by dive professionals and organizations over the past few months. I'll be sharing some cool tidbits and hints in future newsletters!

A few things to keep in mind as we return to diving:

- Diving is a social activity. Be aware, and maintain physical/social distancing at dive events, during gear set-up and surface activities. Our common greetings of hugs, handshakes and high fives will have to stop for now. Underwater, we all have our own air supply and are very self-contained, so we can be good buddies and stay very close to each other.
- Rental/shared equipment. We have additional protocols for disinfecting regulators, as per Divers Alert Network recommended practices.
- Instruction/teaching activities. Considerable thought and effort is being put into training with consideration for covid-19: small classes, physical distancing, being outside when possible, etc. We will begin with teaching specialties such as dry suit. I will notify our students when we are ready to teach these, and open water classes.
- Confined water training – we are very excited about the 'confined open water' concept. This is using open water sites for confined training, as long as criteria are met for 'acceptable visibility for the planned dive, a calm surface, an absence of strong current, and easy entry and exit points'. Clear Lake does meet this criteria – on





the calmer days. Currently the visibility is an amazing 20 to 30 feet. These outstanding photos were all taken on a dive David and I enjoyed last week.

- Dive buddy. I am comfortable with and used to diving with anyone looking for a dive buddy. I know they are of good health to be diving. Some people may only be comfortable diving with a known dive buddy/family member, and that is OK. Don't be shy to speak up if you only want to dive with a selected dive buddy.
- Dive travel. Our passion. We know we will travel again! Our Guadalupe shark cage diving trip: Sep 9-15, 2020, six days on the Nautilus Belle Amie is almost full. Should travel not yet be advised, we will postpone the trip to 2021. The Nautilus is a reputable Canadian organization and will work with us on this. Let me know if you are interested.
- Equipment sales and service. We have quietly returned to the dive store this week, and are completing the repairs and service of items left in our care. Our cylinders are visually inspected and ready to dive!

Lost and found: You know it's a great dive when you find 'bouquets of beverages' which had not been recovered at last July's Woman's Dive Day! Yes, they were very refreshing on a hot day – the can exteriors smelled 'lakey' but when you plugged your nose the contents were good. Also – Jason, we found your anchor – we'll keep it safe until you get to town the next time.



We look forward to seeing our dive buddies soon! Things are opening up, but remain vigilant. Remember: the most powerful tool that we have is social distancing. 2 meters isn't that bad! The provincial guidelines still recommend staying within our own provinces – Lloydminster residents, you should rightfully be able to enjoy travel in both provinces! We are working on some dive training packages for people who would normally only dive tropically, but want to become comfortable diving in our Alberta lakes! Stay tuned!

Store hours: Dan is back!

Store is opening July 2, with summer hours.

Mon, and Wed to Fri: 8:30 to 5:30

Tues open 11 to 4, then to Clear Lake for dive night – starting again on July 7.

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As always, if you wish to be removed from the newsletter, return the email with 'remove' in the subject.