



E-SLATE

American Academy of Underwater Sciences (AAUS)

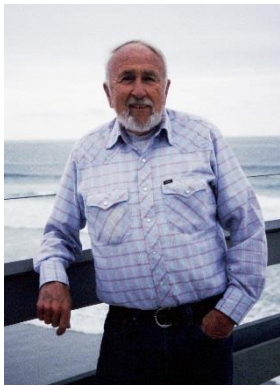
EDITORIAL NOTE –July 2017

Welcome to the July E-Slate. In this edition, we remember Jim Stewart, announce the 2017 SDLA award winner, continue symposium registration and much more. We welcome news, announcements, job postings, program highlights and images of underwater work at aaus@disl.org.

NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jim Stewart (1927-2017)

Jim Stewart, a courageous Scripps Institution of Oceanography diver-educator who helped open the world's oceans to scientists in the 1950s and '60s by training them to use some of the first scuba equipment, has died. He was 89.



CAPTION INFORMATION: Jim Stewart, Dive Safety Officer, Emeritus, Scripps Institution of Oceanography
PHOTO CREDIT: Scripps Institution of Oceanography
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Jim spent 30 years as dive officer at Scripps, where he trained thousands of divers and did pioneering underwater exploration in the Channel Islands and the submarine canyon off the Scripps Pier. He also descended 600 feet in a saturation bell — 100 feet more than the height of the tallest

skyscraper in San Diego. Historians also note that Stewart explored an underwater crater in the Pacific only days after it was hit by a hydrogen bomb, and he helped to standardize the protocol for safe dives in the Antarctic.

“Among scientific and technical divers, Jim Stewart enjoys the status that Chuck Yeager has among professional pilots,” San Diego dive historian Eric Hanauer wrote in a 1999 book about diving pioneers. “... he organized it, standardized it and spread that knowledge around the country and around the world. In the process, he made a lot of history and had a lot of fun.”

He fell in love with the ocean early, as he told interviewer Ron Rainger during a discussion in 2000. Stewart keenly remembered fishing with his father from the Scripps Pier. “When he’d catch a fish, I would take a look at it and run up to the old Scripps aquarium and see what that fish was,” Stewart recalled. “Little did I think I would spend 50 years of my life here.”

Stewart learned the fundamentals of scuba diving in 1951 and became a volunteer at Scripps the following year, where he

worked with pioneering divers Connie Limbaugh and Andy Rechnitzer. He was soon helping with diver training and expanded his involvement into research, exploring kelp beds off the California coast.

In the mid-1950s, Stewart helped to explore and evaluate Pacific atolls that had been the sites of hydrogen bomb tests. He joined Scripps full time in 1957, and was with Limbaugh and researcher Wheeler North in 1959 when the trio discovered underwater sandfalls off Cabo San Lucas.

Tragedy struck a year later, in 1960, when Limbaugh died during a cave diving accident. Stewart succeeded him as Scripps’ dive officer. A second tragedy nearly occurred in 1961. Stewart was attacked by a shark off Wake Island. A colleague got him to shore and flagged down a dump truck, which took Stewart to a hospital. The attack was an odd counterpoint to the work Stewart had done in testing shark repellents. Two years later, he was making his first dives beneath the ice in Antarctica.



Jimmy diving under the ice in a wetsuit. His old DUI wetsuit still hangs in the dive locker at McMurdo Station, Antarctica. Photo compliments of John Heine

Stewart continued to dive for decades, experiencing adventure after adventure. “Sit down with him over a beer and you will be treated to diving history, told vividly by someone who made it and lived it,” Hanauer said of Stewart in his book, “Diving Pioneers.”

“But his greatest legacy is his students, and the students of those he has trained. No one else has influenced more diving leaders, directly and indirectly, both in the world of scientific and sport diving.”

Stewart is survived by wife of 64 years, Joan; his son Craig; his daughter Meredith; and four grandchildren.

Reprinted excerpts from San Diego Union Tribune article authored by Gary Robbins.

<http://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/news/science/sd-me-jimmy-stewart-20170608-story.html>

July 2017 President's Message

I hope everyone is enjoying the beginning of summer and that you're finding warm, clear conditions. This time of year is typically slow for AAUS but the BOD is still working hard on a couple of items I wanted to bring to your attention.

We received five proposals to our RFP for the new dive log website. Mike Angehra and committee will start reviewing them to find the strengths and weaknesses of each. Stay tuned for more information to come.

I have put together a committee to develop the AAUS Diving Safety Officer Certification curriculum. The committee will be putting substance to the draft outline of the course the BOD and ITI approved earlier in 2017. We're targeting a beta test of the course for the weekend prior to the Symposium.

There has been little movement recently on a few other items I have been addressing in previous months. When there are changes I'll get that information to you.

I hope everyone has a productive summer.

Take care and safe diving,
Rick

2017 AAUS Scientific Diving Lifetime Achievement Award

The 2017 American Academy of Underwater Sciences recipient of the Scientific Diving Lifetime Achievement award is John S. Pearse. Dr. Pearse is a Professor Emeritus of Biology and Research Professor in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at the University of California in Santa Cruz.



John graduated from the University of Chicago, Zoology, BSc. in 1958, and Stanford University, Biology, Ph.D. in 1964. His professional appointments include the

American University of Cairo, Egypt, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena and University of California, Santa Cruz.

Pearse is an expert on marine invertebrates with a focus on their reproductive biology and role in the rocky intertidal and kelp forest ecosystems. He has done important research along the California coast and at sites ranging from Antarctica to Japan. Although he retired in 1994, he continues to teach, conduct research, and write as a professor emeritus affiliated with UCSC's Institute of Marine Sciences (IMS). He founded and continues to work with high school students to monitor

the intertidal through the Long-term Monitoring Program and Experiential Training for Students (LiMPETS).

Pearse revised the classic invertebrate zoology textbook *Animals Without Backbones* and wrote another, *Living Invertebrates*, first published in 1987. He has more than 140 published peer-reviewed journals and edited volumes and has served on the editorial board of many journals ranging from *Science* to *Marine Biology* to the *Encyclopedia of Reproduction* and many more. John has served as president of the California Academy of Sciences, the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology, Western Society of Naturalists and the International Society of Invertebrate Reproduction.

He has many honors and awards, such as the Antarctic Service Award; University of California, Santa Cruz, Alumni Distinguished Teacher Annual Award; Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary; International Society of Invertebrate Reproduction, Life-time Membership Recognition Award; Western Society of Naturalists, Lifetime Achievement Award; *Odontaster pearsei*, Antarctic sea star named by Janosik and Halanych and much more.

As a visiting faculty member at Hopkins Marine Station of Stanford University he taught a 5-week "Special Projects" course with near daily dives in the kelp forest there in the summer of 1971. That was a student projects course that resulted in the "A Kelp Forest as a Classroom" report on file at Hopkins. That morphed into the Neritic Ecology, then the Kelp Forest Ecology course that he taught at UCSC nearly every fall quarter from 1972 to 1993. He has mentored >100 undergraduate senior theses, 25 masters' students, 17 doctoral students, and 5 postdoctoral students.

The AAUS Scientific Diving Lifetime Achievement Award is presented biennially to an individual from the scientific diving community who has made a significant contribution in advancing underwater science and technology.

2017 AAUS Diving for Science Symposium

Registration for the 2017 AAUS Diving for Science Symposium, hosted by Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary is now open! The meeting will be held in Alpena, MI from September 12-16, 2017. We welcome diving scientists,



students, diving safety officers and anyone with an interest in diving science to participate in this event. Full schedule, course descriptions and registration at

<https://www.regonline.com/2017aausdivingforscience>

Tuesday, September 12

- Lessons in Complex Task Loading
- Human Factors Skills in Diving: Developing High Performance Divers & Reducing Incidents/Accidents
- DAN Pro IQC
- Visual Inspection Procedure Course (CTS and PSI courses available)
- Intro to Full Face Mask Diving
- VCI Update (PSI-evening workshop)

Wednesday, September 13

- Lessons in Complex Task Loading
- Otic Barotrauma
- New DSO Orientation
- Human Factors Skills in Diving: Developing High Performance Divers & Reducing Incidents/Accidents
- Dive Injury Recognition and Management
- Vendor In-Water Demo

Thursday, September 14

- AAUS Business Meeting and National Diving Safety Officers Meeting
- Bubblebreaker and Poster Session

Friday and Saturday, September 15-16

- All day science symposium
- 2017 Annual Awards Banquet – includes a glass bottom boat tour for the first 100 registrants.

Sunday to Tuesday, September 17-19

- Diving the Geology of the Great Lakes Field Trip

Charter Dive Opportunities September 12-14

STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

University of Alaska Southeast Dive Semester

Students interested in fisheries, diving, and marine biology, can round out their studies with a field-based program in Sitka, Alaska in the Spring of 2018 (January 14 - May 5).

Students will have the opportunity to work with UAS faculty and become accomplished research divers. Over the semester, students will learn everything from basic dive skills, to underwater rescue procedures, to underwater data collection techniques and will become familiar with local fish and invertebrate species while participating in new and ongoing marine-related research projects. Additionally, students will develop skills in basic skiff handling and small engine maintenance techniques.

This program offers you the opportunity to earn certifications as a PADI Open Water Diver, PADI Dry Suit Diver, PADI Advanced Open Water Diver, PADI Research Diver, AAUS Scientific Diver, and a DAN O2 Provider along with gaining

experience in cold-water research and field work. For more information, visit <http://divesemester.alaska.edu/> or contact Dr. Reid Brewer at 907-747-7799.

NOAA Graduate Student Internship Opportunities

The NOAA Office of Education seeks applicants for 10 week - 12 month paid internship opportunities for graduate students to develop professional skills while conducting projects in research, resource management or operations. Students are fully funded by NOAA's Office of Education or the National Science Foundation (NSF). Graduate student internships are available through two programs:

- 1) NOAA's Educational Partnership Program with Minority Serving Institutions - <http://bit.ly/2fQ0okf>
- 2) The NSF Graduate Research Internship Program - <http://bit.ly/2qTz3kK>

Three Seas Program

Northeastern University's Three Seas Program is currently accepting applications for the Undergraduate Spring 2018 cohort. The Three Seas Program is a year-long field immersion experience focusing heavily marine sciences and subtidal research. Three Seas students learn the basics of underwater research through AAUS before being immersed in three distinct ecosystems over the course of two academic semesters. More information is available at <http://www.northeastern.edu/cos/threeseas> or by emailing the Three Seas Program Manager and Diving Safety Officer, Liz Bentley Magee (e.magee@northeastern.edu).

JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

Full information and application instructions for the following jobs can be found at www.aaus.org/job_board

Boston University

Dive Safety Program Manager

Cardinal Point Captains

Research Operations Specialist

CIEE Bonaire

Tropical Marine Conservation Biology Instructor

University of Hawaii

Associate Professor

University of Plymouth

Academic Diving Manager

The mission of the American Academy of Underwater Sciences is to facilitate the development of safe and productive scientific divers through education, research, advocacy, and the advancement of standards for scientific diving practices, certifications, & operations.

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