

CRUISE NEWS

AGGRESSOR FLEET® the ultimate in live-aboards®

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Underwater Photography, Catch the Bug!

Imagine scuba diving in a black and white sea. Imagine this newsletter without color, or even without photographs. Divers love color, form, lightning and panoramic views. We all enjoy the ocean's beauty and we want to share it with our non-diving friends, but some of us are just too scared to try underwater photography. "What if my pictures turn out bad?" "The camera is too complicated." Worry no more. Aggressor offers a variety of underwater photo workshops for the beginner and advanced shooters. Don't own a camera? Rent one on the boat. Take your pick: digital or slide. It's easy, fun and even addictive. Check out the course options below and grab your fins. You're going to love underwater photography!

Jim Church School of UW Photography



Long-time associates of legendary Jim Church, Mike Mesgleski & Mike Haber are the most

patient and understanding instructors you'll ever meet. They will simplify all the numbers and terms with easy to understand examples. Mike & Mike, along with the Aggressor crew, will assist you in the classroom and in the water.

Are you an experienced photographer? Master a new piece of equipment or develop a new technique with the "two Mikes" guiding you along the way.

- BELIZE AGGRESSOR III
June 12-19, 2004 \$2,445 Mesgleski & Haber
 - CAYMAN AGGRESSOR IV
May 22-29, 2004 \$2,445 Mesgleski & Haber
 - Sept. 25-Oct. 2, 2004 \$2,445 Mesgleski & Haber
 - GALAPAGOS AGGRESSOR I *Land photo opportunities too!
Aug. 11-18, 2005 \$3,345 Mesgleski & Haber
 - PALAU AGGRESSOR II
Feb. 13-20, 2005 \$2,995 Stan Waterman & Mesgleski
 - TRUK AGGRESSOR II
Feb. 20-27, 2005 \$2,895 Stan Waterman & Mesgleski
 - April 17-24, 2005 \$2,745 Mesgleski & Haber
 - TURKS & CAICOS AGGRESSOR II
July 31-Aug. 7, 2004 \$2,445 Mesgleski & Haber
- *more dates on the Photo Workshops page at aggressor.com.*

TURKS & CAICOS AGGRESSOR II
Sep. 11-18, 2004 \$2,450 Mauricio Handler

PALAU AGGRESSOR II
Nov. 14-21, 2004 \$2,945 Mauricio Handler

TRUK AGGRESSOR II
Nov. 21-28, 2004 \$2,745 Mauricio Handler with
Turks & Caicos Aggressor Captain Piers van der Walt. (Save \$200 when traveling back-to-back.)



Student Craig Jones took this great photo in Turks & Caicos.

The Digital Revolution is Now!
Digital guru Rod Klein continues his digital video and photo workshops in 2004. Students will get a complete overview of digital still and/or digital video cameras, housings, lighting, exposure, storage, computer editing, and still image manipulation. Most Aggressor boats carry rental digital units and Klein brings four set-ups that may be used on a first-come, first-served basis. Cameras must be reserved in advance.

Mauricio and Capt. Piers host Pacific Workshop and Shootout

After conducting three intense photo workshops in Turks & Caicos, Mauricio Handler will teach students advanced photo techniques in Truk Lagoon and Palau. The courses explore over-and-under, or "split," photography, extreme macro, mixed lighting and much more. Handler's course specializes in housed camera photography. Capt. Piers van der Walt from Turks & Caicos will join the Truk workshop. As an added bonus, shootout participants may leave with great prizes and gear from Aquatica, Light & Motion, XS Scuba, Technical Lighting Control and Ikelite.

- BELIZE AGGRESSOR III
Apr. 3-10 or Apr. 10-17, 2004 \$2,345 Klein
 - TURKS & CAICOS AGGRESSOR II
May 15-22 or May 22-29, 2004 \$2,345 Klein
 - CAYMAN AGGRESSOR IV
Aug. 21-28 or Aug. 28-Sep. 4, 2004 \$2,345 Klein
- *Dates are subject to change.*

Silversides and photographer in Belize by Rod Klein

Fall 2003

Belize Kicks Off 2004 with a Super Special

Enhanced Web Site on the Horizon, aggressor.com

Poetic Dive Masters in Tahiti

2004-2005 Bring a Friend Weeks

Artist Guy Harvey Swims with Whales

Stan Waterman Celebrates 80th Birthday in Style

Sign up for our Hot News e-news at aggressor.com to get the latest specials and scoop.

Dive Yachts Available for Private Charters

Aggressor Fleet, Limited, agent for the largest fleet of franchise dive yachts in the world, is now offering the Aggressor boats for hire as private, corporate or family charters. The intimate, 14-to 22-passenger yachts may be chartered as bare boats or fully-founded vessels with crew, insurance and supplies. Menus, entertainment and itineraries may be designed by the client or recommended by the Aggressor Fleet, Limited staff.

"The Aggressors are designed for scuba diving, however, they are very versatile ships. They may be used for eco-tours, research, as an outpost for charter fishing or just cruising the islands. For 20 years, the Aggressors and her professional crews have treated divers to some of the most exciting marine encounters in the world, and now we want to share our fine accommodations, experience and lust for adventure with other travelers," says operations manager Wayne Hasson.



Jan. 3-March 13, 2004
Belize Aggressor II
vacations are just
\$1,895 p.p. dbl. occ.

*Special rate does not apply to groups.

Sample ScubaPro's Latest Gear During Your Next Vacation



ScubaPro, the leader in dive gear, and Aggressor Fleet, the largest fleet of world-wide live-aboards, are teaming up with a great offer—test dive a BC, regulator, computer or fins for FREE during an Aggressor vacation! Guests may sample some of the hottest new ScubaPro products on-site, allowing you try it before you buy it.

*Equipment selection may vary between vessels.

NEW DIVE SKIFF IN PALAU

The 18-passenger AGGRESSOR II now has a roomy new dive skiff long by 9 feet wide through the Rock Island anxious divers to Belize Along Channel and fabulous Aggressor



Explore the Wrecks of Truk Lagoon for Less During Gold Weeks



Dive The World Club members will receive a \$200 to \$400 discount per person off standard rates during select "Gold Weeks." Weeks are also listed on the Dive The World Club page of the Aggressor web site. Only repeat Aggressor clients receive the Gold rate. More weeks may be added at any time!

- **KONA AGGRESSOR II:** Jan 17-24, 2004 (\$200 off) now \$1,795
- **CAYMAN AGGRESSOR IV:** Feb 7-14, 2004 (\$200 off) now \$1,895
- **TAHITI AGGRESSOR:** Feb 7-14, 2004 (\$400 off) now \$2,495
- **GALAPAGOS AGGRESSOR II:** Feb. 19-26, 2004 (\$400 off) now \$2,495
- **PALAU AGGRESSOR II:** Feb. 29-Mar. 7, 2004 (\$400 off) now \$2,095
- **FIJI AGGRESSOR II:** Mar. 27-Apr. 3, 2004 (\$200 off) now \$2,195
- **OKEANOS AGGRESSOR:** Mar. 27-Apr. 4, 2004 (\$200 off) now \$2,495
- **TRUK AGGRESSOR II:** May 30-June 6, 2004 (\$200 off) now \$2,095

See more dates online. Dates are subject to change without notice.

2003 Photo Contest

The 2003 photo contest is underway. Categories for the 2003 contest are Film (slide or print), Digital and Beginner (film or digital). In addition to fabulous prizes such as free Aggressor vacations, the 2003 First Place

Beginner winner will get a **FREE Gates Underwater Housing!** Entries are due Jan. 15, 2004.



HOT NEW HOT DEAL

Are you receiving Aggressor's monthly "Hot News" e-newsletter? Log onto aggressor.com today. Each month you'll receive a brief, informative newsletter filled with money-saving tips, field stories and details on upcoming Gold Weeks.

Poetry in French Polynesia

Well here we go for another trip
Divers arrive ready for a dip
Into the ocean so nice and blue
Wondering if all the rumors are true

Fakarava is where we start, jumping in we begin our week,
As lionfish, morays and sharks we greet,
Dolphins play around the boat, splashing
and frolicking in our wake
We head back to the big boat, savouring
the memories we make.

It's off to the corner we head again, into the ocean we go
Catching the currents, we go with the flow,
In awe of the life that steals the show
From corals, fish, sharks and rays,
Its all here if you're in the know.

We leave for another new place, Toau is the name
The diving is different and never the same
A manta glides through big eyes on the reef
Feeding on plankton, we look on in belief.

On to the pass we go for a look
Catching the current and hoping to hook
Grey reefs, silvertips all fill the scene
Is it real or is it a dream?

The "Fish Hole" is where we end the dive
Filled with fish all trying to survive
Grey reef sharks prowl around
Staying low and close to the ground

"What a great day!" everyone cries
As the sun goes down for the night sky.

We head once more for another place
Apataki is the name, a place filled with grace
Humpback Snappers a huge schooling bunch
How bout some Mantas? I have a good hunch!

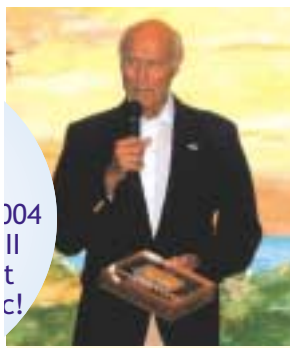
Off to Rangí I think we will go
where the mantas and dolphins will show
A couple of Humpbacks we did see
and ten or more mantas for you and me.

The last day it suddenly arrives
The guests are wiping tears from their eyes
Just as they get used to their comfy beds
Here comes the mother of Great Hammerheads!

-Written by the multi-talented,
Tahiti Aggressor Crew

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Stan Waterman accepts a gift at an Aggressor party thrown in his honor.

Stan Waterman in Tahiti, A Royal 80th Birthday Party

(Here is an excerpt from Stan Waterman describing his 80th birthday celebration aboard the Tahiti Aggressor.)

"At this writing, July 4, 2003, I am the day-after survivor of a third celebration of the same birthday. Why so late? My best friend, Peter Benchley, decided to have a party for me. To that end he chartered the entire Tahiti Aggressor, invited me to ask some of my friends and planned to bring some of his family and friends as well. Since his son, Christopher, was not free from school until early June, the boat was chartered for the last week in June, on into early July. For the first time in our fifty-three married years my good and patient wife, Susy, would finally go on a dive trip....

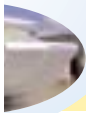
...It happens that the Tahiti Aggressor and its clone, the Palau Aggressor may just be the two most comfortable, diver-friendly live-aboards in the world. The food approached grand cuisine. The crew knocked themselves out to serve and help us in every way. Three responsible, well-trained dive guides escorted us through the passes of the Tuamotu atolls safely. No strays were caught in the ferocious tidal currents to be carried far into or out of the lagoons.

...And how did my wife of fifty-three years handle the challenge? Susy is not a diver and hadn't bought a bathing suit for almost twenty-five years. She was inexperienced and uncertified with scuba, apprehensive but determined. Paul Stone, the Aggressor's captain and an instructor as well, devoted all his spare time to getting her started. With infinite patience and care and - commendably fast learning for a seventy-four-year-old lady - he got her started. Buddying with him she was able to join us in the pass and experience the great shark parade at first hand. Having survived ordeal by shark without flinching she is now puffed up like a conceited toad. The neighbors have heard no end of it. She's ready to dive the Titanic...Who says old age is only good for cheese? I can't wait for another decade to reach ninety and go at it again."—STAN WATERMAN

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PALAU

ger PALAU is a sleek, f. The 28 feet boat speeds and delivering Blue Corner, many other sor sites.



Join Stan Aboard an Aggressor for a week of fun and diving. He will host a nightly "bijou" film and entertain guests with his wit and anecdotes of his diving and professional underwater videography career.

BELIZE: May 1-8, 2004 Stan

GALAPAGOS: July 1-8, 2004 Stan

CAYMAN: Aug. 14-21, 2004 Stan

TURKS & CAICOS: Oct. 23-30, 2004 Stan

CAYMAN: Apr. 9-16, 2005 Stan

PALAU: Feb. 13-20, 2005 Stan & Mike Mesgleski

TRUK LAGOON: Feb. 20-27, 2005 Stan & Mike Mesgleski

GALAPAGOS: Aug. 25-Sept.1, 2005 Stan

Determined Diver Beats the Odds, Dives Again

Injured in a severe car crash, Linda Lee lie in hospital bed dreaming of scuba diving. Lee thought she would never experience the freedom and beauty of the underwater world again. Months, and many rehabilitation sessions later, she called the Aggressor Fleet office. Lee said that a great deal of assistance would be needed to help her manage the dives. The Aggressor staff explained that with advance notice, the crew could accommodate her needs.

On August 23, 2003 Lee fulfilled her dream aboard the Turks & Caicos

Aggressor II. Here's what she said after her week of diving:

"Thanks for everything. Your insight and sensitivity to my special needs and the way you handled all the communications to set up my itinerary were just excellent. I appreciated your friendly, professional methods SO much," guest Linda Lee.



Photo by Christopher Caudle

2004 Kids' Sea Camps



Diving and snorkeling is a family activity. On designated Kids' Camp charters, youngsters ages 5-13 receive 25% off the charter rate. See the "Family Diving" itinerary at aggressor.com for more details.

BELIZE KID'S SEA CAMP,
June 19-26, 2004

BAY ISLANDS KID'S SEA CAMP,
July 17-24, 2004

TURKS & CAICOS KID'S SEA CAMP,
Aug. 7-14, 2004

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2004-2005 Bring A Friend Weeks

On designated "Bring A Friend Weeks," Aggressor Fleet's DIVE THE WORLD CLUB members can share the adventure of an Aggressor vacation with a friend for 50% off regular rates (Member pays full, friend pays 50%). This offer is exclusively for Club members and their buddies, who must travel together for the discount to apply. To join, you must complete one Aggressor Fleet charter. An application is available at www.aggressor.com. When multiple discounts apply, only the most generous is applied.

Bay Islands Aggressor IV: July 31-Aug. 7, 2004; Oct. 1-8, 2005

Belize Aggressor III: Sept. 18-25, 2004; Feb. 5-12, 2005

Cayman Aggressor IV: Sept. 18-25, 2004, Jan. 22-29, 2005

Fiji Aggressor II: May 15-22, 2004; Nov. 6-13, 2004; Feb. 19-26, 2005

Galapagos Aggressor I: May 13-20, 2004*; Dec. 16-23, 2004; Dec. 8-15, 2005

Galapagos Aggressor II: May 20-27, 2004*; Sep. 9-16, 2004; Nov. 10-17, 2005

Kona Aggressor II: Apr. 24-May 1, 2004; Oct. 16-23, 2004; Mar. 12-19, 2005

Okeanos Aggressor: Jan. 13-24, 2004; Feb. 14-22, 2004; Aug. 10-20, 2004; Nov. 26-Dec. 4, 2005

Palau Aggressor II: Apr. 4-11, 2004*; July 18-25, 2004; Sep. 12-19, 2004*; Oct. 16-23, 2005*

Tahiti Aggressor: Jan. 3-10, 2004; Feb. 26-Mar. 5, 2005

Truk Aggressor II: Mar. 28-Apr. 4, 2004*; June 6-13, 2004; Sep. 19-26, 2004*; Oct. 23-30, 2005*

Turks & Caicos Aggressor II: Jan. 17-24, 2004; June 5-12, 2004; Nov. 13-20, 2004; Sep. 17-24, 2005

*Back-to-back charters. **Dates are subject to change without notice.

COCO ISLAND VALUE PACKAGE STARTS AT \$2,295

ht-day Okeanos Aggressor voyages start at \$2,295 p.p. quad. occ. This is a great opportunity for the budget diver to sample some big-league nature diving off Costa Rica's Pacific st. Schooling hammerheads, giant atas, tuna, they are all waiting for you at Coco. Hurry, this great price won't last forever. The Jan. 13-24, 2004 Bring A Friend Week is a great deal too!



Meet the Aggressor Staff at a Local Show

A member of the Aggressor Fleet, Limited staff or a crew member will share the Aggressor Experience with divers at the following dive shows. Please stop by the booth and say 'hello.'

March 6-7, 2004 Boston Sea Rovers, Boston, MA

March 26-28, 2004 Beneath The Sea, Secaucus, NJ www.beneaththesea.com

March 27-28, 2004 The London International Dive Show, London, England www.diveshows.co.uk

April 23-25, 2004 Our World Underwater, Chicago, IL www.ourworldunderwater.com

May 14-16, 2004 Ocean Fest, Ft. Lauderdale, FL www.oceanfest.com

May 22-23, 2004 Scuba Show 2004, Long Beach, CA

June 5-6, 2004 Seaspace, Houston, TX www.seaspace.org

October 13-16, 2004 DEMA, Houston, TX (not open to the general public).



Bay Islands' Debbie Blackman at DEMA.

AGGRESSOR EXCLUSIVE: Swan Islands, Honduras

Bay Islands' Crew Explores Virgin Diving, New Destination



In December, the Bay Islands Aggressor IV will depart from Roatan with an east, northeast bearing. Destination: the pristine reefs of Honduras' **Swan Islands**. The mission: to explore the region's best dive sites and install moorings for 2004 charters. These three remote islands lie approximately 120 miles northeast of Roatan. The Bay Islands Aggressor IV is scheduling Swan Islands charters April 10, 2004 - October 2, 2004. The rates are: master stateroom \$2,195 and deluxe stateroom \$1,995 p.p., dbl.

occ. The seven-day, Saturday-to-Saturday adventurers will depart from Roatan Saturday evening. Book a Bay Islands Aggressor IV adventure today and be one of the first to explore a true diving frontier, the Swan Islands.

If you can't wait until April to dive Honduras, January through March Bay Islands Aggressor IV charters are value-priced at \$1,495 p.p. Weather permitting, guests will tour a "World of Wrecks." The Bay Islands are home to several intriguing wrecks including the *Halliburton*, the *Jado Trader*, the *Aguillar* and the colossal *Odyssey*.



The Odyssey



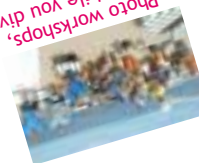
The Halliburton

Aggressor Fleet live-a-boards are independently owned and operated franchises.

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Photo workshops,
learn while you dive.



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ARTIST GUY HARVEY HOSTS HUMPBACK EXPEDITION



Beginning February 14, 2004, marine biologist and wildlife artist Guy Harvey will host a humpback whale snorkeling excursion aboard the live-aboard Turks & Caicos Aggressor II. Throughout the week, guests will have

the rare opportunity to swim face-to-face with humpback whales and their newborn calves.

"There are few places where one can swim with humpbacks and have soft-water encounters. It should prove very inspirational and I will be doing sketches and a painting from my observations onboard," explains Guy Harvey.

The charter departs from Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic. Charter rates start at \$1,595 p.p., plus a \$150 whale sanctuary fee.

Other Guy Harvey expeditions include a fabulous trip to Palau July 25-Aug. 1, 2004.



NEW LOOK, CONTENT, AGGRESSOR.COM

In late November, a rebuilt Aggressor site will be launched. The address is the same, www.aggressor.com, but it is an all new format with loads of

features to help you gain valuable information for your next Aggressor adventure.

- Interactive "Trip Finder"
- Captain's Log archive
- UW and topside photo galleries
- Gear inventories
- Dealer locator for local dive shops
- Easy navigation

While you're touring the site, register for the Hot News and you'll receive the latest news and money-saving specials.



Let the "Trip Finder" help you locate the perfect dive trip. Just choose your diving skill, desired marine life, topography and price and the Finder will suggest the Aggressor destination that's right for you.