

CRUISE NEWS

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Spring 2005 inside:



Stan Shares his Story in New Book



2006 Family Charter Dates

New, Lower Rental Digital Camera Packages



Photo Winners

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The Ultimate in Live-Aboards®
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Aggressor Fleet continues its world-wide expansion by offering charters in North

Sulawesi

After exploratory trips by Captains Wayne Hasson, Dan Ruth and Niall Lawlor, permits have been approved to operate an Aggressor Fleet Franchise in beautiful North Sulawesi, Indonesia.



The North Sulawesi Aggressor will offer seven-day, Saturday-to-Saturday charters departing from Kungkungan Bay Resort in

Northern Sulawesi. The first North Sulawesi Aggressor trip is scheduled to begin on December 3, 2005. Seasoned Aggressor Captain Niall Lawlor will guide guests to remote sites near Bangka Islands, Bunaken Islands and the Lembeh Strait. Charter pricing is \$2,095 p.p., dbl. occ. in 2005; \$2,295 in 2006 and \$2,395 in 2007.

“First impressions are very, very good,” says *Truk Aggressor II* captain, Niall Lawlor. “I found myself itching to get back and find those cool critters in the muck.”

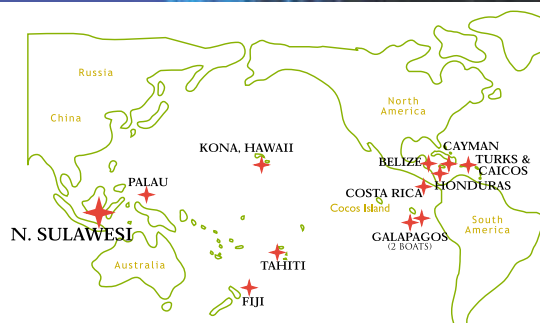


“Muck” is Misleading

The term muck diving refers to the act of exploring sandy or rubble filled areas for small critters. Sulawesi muck diving reaches the outer limits, where you will find creatures who look more like space aliens than ocean dwellers.

“It is a photographer’s dream,” says Aggressor’s Wayne Hasson. “Don’t let the name ‘muck’ fool you, visibility is very good and the dives may reach a depth of 80 feet.”

Aggressor dive masters around the world are seeking out muck dives in their local destinations. Hasson continues, “Great muck diving can be found in Galapagos and many Caribbean locations.”



SCUBA SAVER

Save \$1,000* during July through December 2006 back-to-back North Sulawesi Aggressor - Palau Aggressor II vacations!

*cannot be used in conjunction with other discounts.



Photos by Wayne Hasson.



Lights, Camera, Diving!

Aggressor crews host IMAX, Survivor, Tanya Streeter and others



Over the past year, Aggressor Fleet cooks have served meals to Russian TV stars, mechanics have hoisted 1,500-pound cameras and dive masters have pampered the castaways, who won the Survivor Immunity Challenge. Here are a few of the ways that Aggressor boats and crews have participated in film productions:

- In May, television star **Yana Churikova** spent a week diving aboard the *Palau Aggressor II*. She is the presenter and host of Russia's version of American Idol.
- Divers may have recognized the *Palau Aggressor II* during a recent **Survivor** television episode. Show contestants spent several hours aboard the catamaran getting pampered and fed in style.
- **IMAX** filmmakers **Howard and Michelle Hall** used the *Kona Aggressor II* as their production base while filming near the Big Island. (see related story).
- **Free diving champion Tanya Streeter** is a member of Aggressor Fleet's Dive the World Club! As part of an underwater series running on the **British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC)**, Streeter has explored and filmed many Aggressor destinations. Last year, she dived the Blue Hole in Belize and toured ancient Mayan ruins. In 2005, she and her production team swam with humpbacks whales during a *Turks & Caicos Aggressor II* charter. She recently spent two weeks filming aboard the *Galapagos Aggressor*.
- Former *Truk Aggressor* captain, **Clay Wiseman**, assisted in production of "**Into the Blue**." The MGM Hollywood film was shot in the Bahamas.

So next time you're suiting up for a dive on an Aggressor, remember, you're actually diving from a floating movie studio.



Howard and Michelle Hall (center) with the IMAX film team and Kona Aggressor crew. A special davit was built to handle the mammoth 1,500 pound 3-D camera.

Kona as a Movie Star

by Capt. Jonatha Giddens

Howard and Michelle Hall and their crew for the upcoming underwater IMAX movie arrived on a Saturday in early April. The crew of the *Kona Aggressor II* (exquisitely supported by welders, carpenters, mechanics, marine electricians, boom truck operators) bustled about to welcome the new guests and accommodate the transformation of our boat into an amazing floating movie-making studio.

Everyone was present for the first launching of the 3-D camera. From the sun deck, we lifted the two eyed Alvin-looking submersible by specially designed davit, and eased it into the water, using many lines to keep the weight suspended. There were special launch and recovery divers to usher the camera two and from the boat. Technical divers were on rebreathers to assist under water. The camera men were on rebreathers so they could have utmost patience and not be limited by air or bottom time.

The symbiosis of Turtle Pinnacle: Turtles cruise their reef, flocked by Tangs in colorful array. It is a place of relaxation, close encounters, resting and patience. Camera men adopt this symbiotic approach working underwater. It takes at least two people to maneuver the camera, so all have to move with an acute awareness of one another. In witnessing and working to capture and portray the tranquil symbiosis of the reef, workers become one more circle in that concentric community.

To see the big toys, (cameras, rebreathers, etc.) handled so expertly, to see such an amazing project in its production process, and the people who make it happen, well, we are just honored. - *Kona Aggressor II, Jonatha Giddens*

Read more of Jonatha's story on the News page at aggressor.com.



Gone Fishin'

Aggressor gears up for tag and release sport fishing vacations

The Ultimate in Live-aboards® will soon offer the ultimate in fishing adventures.

"Belize, Honduras, Kona and many other current destinations are home to big game fish, like snook, permit, tarpon and bonefish," says Aggressor's Wayne Hasson after a trip to southern Belize. "We are very excited about the opportunity to offer world-class fishing to our existing clients and anglers world wide. Our fishing charters will follow the same environmental guidelines as our scuba and snorkeling expeditions." All fishing will be tag and release.

This 100-plus pound leaping tarpon was caught on video by the Aggressor crew during an exploratory mission along Honduras' Miskito Coast.

Photos by Eddy Anderson and the Bay Islands Aggressor IV crew.



"Eat, Sleep, Dive" sounds good in any language. Russian, Japanese, German and Spanish information is now available at aggressor.com. Just click on one of the flags. Soon, many pages of the site will be translated for our international dive buddies.

Aggressor Photo Contest is one of the World's Premier Underwater Photo Showcases

Congratulations to all of the 2004 contest winners. Winning is easy. Just take an underwater photo during your Aggressor vacation and send it in. If you don't own a camera, a rental unit is available on every boat from the on-board photo pro. All winning photos and the 2005 entry form are available on the Photo Contest page under the News heading at www.aggressor.com.



Beginner 1st Place: Richard Gzbowski
PRIZE: FREE Tahiti Aggressor vacation

BEGINNER

1st Place: **Richard Gzbowski**
FREE Tahiti Aggressor vacation

2nd Place: **Diane Tange**
50% off Turk & Caicos Aggressor II scuba vacation

3rd Place: **Daniel Balsam**
PRIZE: 25% off Okeanos Aggressor vacation



Daniel Balsam

DIGITAL

1st Place: **Jean Hayes**
FREE Palau Aggressor II vacation

2nd Place: **Barbara Fava**
50% off Fiji Aggressor II vacation

3rd Place: **Bill Krebs**
25% off Belize Aggressor III vacation



Barabara Fava

FILM

1st Place: **Dave McGaughey**
FREE Galapagos Aggressor vacation

2nd Place: **Christine Ristinger**
50% off Cayman Aggressor IV vacation

3rd Place: **George Michael Hall**
25% off Kona Aggressor II vacation



Christine Ristinger

Digital Cameras now Rent for Less

"Share the Joy of the Sea"

Ever since the first *Cayman Aggressor* charter in 1984, underwater photography has been an integral part of every Aggressor Fleet charter. Twenty-one years later, that commitment continues with underwater digital packages available on every vessel. During the recent 2005 franchise meeting, owners and managers decided to lower camera rental fees. Here are the new prices:

UW Digital camera....\$25/day
or
UW Digital camera....\$100/week

With these great prices, everyone can return home with their own fabulous underwater photos and Share the Joy of the Sea!



Stan Waterman's long-awaited book is being published by New World Publications and will be ready for DEMA in October. "Sea Salt" will be a hard back with the essays he wrote for Ocean Realm, and other dive journals, plus personal memoirs, letters and editorials. The book will have over three hundred pages and more than sixty-five pictures encompassing growing up in Maine by the sea and a half century of diving adventures around the world. Many of the adventures recounted were unique experiences with the Aggressor Fleet. Forewords are by Peter Benchley and Howard Hall. Stan will be signing his book at DEMA and consumer trade shows. You may purchase it online at www.fishid.com. He assures prospective buyers at the signing that he will personally kiss and hug any and all beautiful ladies and pets as well.

Dive with Stan Waterman

CAYMAN AGGRESSOR IV
July 22-29, 2006 \$2,495 Stan Waterman

GALAPAGOS AGGRESSOR
Aug. 25-Sept. 1, 2005 \$3,295 SOLD OUT
Sept. 21-28, 2006 \$3,395 Stan Waterman

NORTH SULAWESI AGGRESSOR
June 2006 Stan Waterman, dates TBA

PALAU AGGRESSOR II
May 14-21, 2006 \$2,995 Stan Waterman

TAHITI AGGRESSOR
Feb. 4-11, 2006 \$3,295 Stan Waterman

Where is the *Next* Aggressor Destination?

Searching for new and exciting locations are part of Aggressor Fleet's mission as the "Ultimate in Live-aboards®." Our clients' input is very important, that's why every post-trip questionnaire begins with the question, "Where else would you like to see an Aggressor?" Your advice influenced the decision to begin operations in North Sulawesi.

Utila, one of the Bay Islands, is the next destination! It has awesome walls, mysterious wrecks and year-round whale shark activity. Just keep checking your mail box and continue to visit aggressor.com for the all-new 14-passenger *Utila Aggressor* itinerary and charter rates.



SAFETY IS NUMBER ONE.

Aggressor crew members conduct safety drills and life-saving training throughout the year. Divers Alert Network oxygen kits and defibrillators are aboard every vessel. Additional drills are conducted and reviewed in June.

Annual Franchise Meeting

In early May, new ideas were discussed at the annual Aggressor Fleet franchise meeting. The mood was very upbeat and everyone was extremely excited about the new additions, North Sulawesi and Utila, to the world-wide fleet.

This annual franchise meeting is a unique feature of the Aggressor Fleet. It allows people, with a variety of expertise and backgrounds, from around the world, the opportunity to share ideas that will shape the future of live-aboard diving.



Announcing the North Sulawesi and Utila Aggressors!

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Aggressor Fleet live-aboards are independently owned and operated franchises.

Make Your Reservations Online!

Divers may now browse availability, make deposits and reserve an Aggressor live-aboard charter anywhere, anytime at www.aggressor.com/onlineres. Passengers will receive a deposit receipt and an e-mail confirming the reservation. This new reservation option is just one of the many innovative services offered by the 21-year-old live-aboard company.



Why is the Aggressor Fleet, Limited staff so knowledgeable? It's because they experience Aggressor vacations first hand.

Here are just a few of their trips over the past several months:

- Julie Glaviana, Cocos Island and Galapagos
 - Kenia Robertson, Costa Rica
- Matthew Armand, fishing in Honduras
- Darien Bacon, Dominican Republic-humpback whales
 - Shawn Exnicious, Turks & Caicos
- Wayne Hasson, Cocos Island, Cayman, southern Belize, Sulawesi, Palau

2006 Family Sea Camps

TURKS & CAICOS AGGRESSOR II:

JULY 1-8, 2006

HOSTED BY SHIRLEY BROWN.

BELIZE AGGRESSOR III:

JULY 29-AUG. 5, 2006

HOSTED BY SHIRLEY BROWN.



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