



February 2010 Newsletter

2009 in Review

Last year seemed to pass in a blink of an eye, but when I look back on it, it was packed with great expeditions and a training schedule that included all levels in both open circuit and rebreather courses.

In July we ran a trip to Presque Isle which is located in Michigan on the shores of Lake Huron. We expected to dive several of the wrecks in the 170 -210 foot depth range but certainly didn't expect what lay in store for us.



Presque Isle

Our first dive was on the *SS Florida*, a multi-deck cargo vessel that was largely intact except for the stern which allowed an easy entry point to its decks. The visibility was incredible and there was lots of ambient light on the wreck. When we completed our first dive, comments like “We could spend the whole week diving this wreck and I'd be happy.” set a pretty high bench mark for the dives to follow.

Over the next several days we visited the *Cornelia B. Windiate*, *Kyle Spangler* and the *Norman*. These wrecks were all in excellent condition and offered the divers a great look back in history. By the end of the week it was clear that we would be back again in 2010!

The *Empress of Ireland* is a dive that never disappoints! We enjoyed our dives on this majestic ocean liner and were constantly reminded of the enormous human toll that was paid when this ship sank. The *Empress* is a dive that is forever changing and offers an incredible experience for the few who have visited her.

The *Gunilda* and *Judge Hart* were special treats this year. We ran two trips to these incredible sites in late September. Located on the north shores of Lake Superior, September can bring some unsettled weather. We fortunately enjoyed the only two weeks of summer for 2009 while we were there. Everyone had great dives and saw both the



Gunilda, which has been described as the “best preserved shipwreck in the world” and the *Judge Hart* is certainly not far behind.

What's Coming in 2010

Beneath The Sea – March 26-28, 2010

Once again we will be at this extraordinary dive show. There truly is something for everyone to enjoy at BTS. Check out the show line up at www.beneaththesea.org and don't forget to drop by and see us at our regular spot, Booth 419!

Presque Isle - July 11-20, 2010

As mentioned above, we will be returning to this area for some more great wreck diving. We have two 5 day trips planned and there are spots available on both trips. These dive sites are ideally suited for the entry level trimix or extended range diver. There are two trips available in July 2010 so check out our website or drop us an email and we'll take care of getting you into some outstanding wreck diving!!



SS FLORIDA



Carl D. Bradley – August 3-8, 2010

When launched, the Carl D. Bradley was the largest ship on the Great Lakes. Her 639 foot length didn't save her during a vicious storm in 1958 that sent her and 33 of the 35 crew to the bottom. In early August we will be running an expedition to this site where very few divers have been. Due to the depth, 365 feet, this is a closed trip. If this type of diving is something you want to participate in, drop me an email and we can look at how this can be achieved for you.





Empress of Ireland – August 15-28, 2010

This is one of the trips we have become synonymous with and it goes without saying...we love diving this incredible ocean liner. We have two open trips planned for the Empress of Ireland this summer. Both trips are presently full but we are considering adding a third date. If you are interested in diving the Empress of Ireland drop me a line at tyler@advancedexpeditions.com and we can look at the possibilities.



Gunilda and Judge Hart– September 7-17, 2010

September will take us back to beautiful Northern Ontario on the north shore of Lake Superior for two more trips to these incredibly well preserved wrecks. At 195 feet in length the Gunilda is packed with detail and artifacts. The depth of 270 feet (250 to the top deck) leave divers with only a fraction of the bottom time we would all like to spend here, but there's always the next dive!



Preparing to dive the Gunilda



The descent begins

We still have a few spots available between the two trips so don't wait to contact me if this is on your radar!

The OPP (Ontario Provincial Police) have been investigating complaints of looting from the Gunilda and will be keeping a close eye on it this season. With the Gunilda being described as the best preserved shipwreck in the world, this is one wreck where the saying "take only pictures and leave only bubbles" (except the rebreather divers 😊) makes a lot of sense.



Truk Lagoon and Palau, October 21 – November 9, 2010

The 2010 Truk Lagoon and Palau trip offers so much more than diving. We leave from Los Angeles and stop off at Hawaii before spending time in Guam. From there it's off to Truk Lagoon (Chuuk) for a week of incredible warm water wreck diving onboard a luxurious liveaboard. Then it's off to Palau via a day in Guam for another week of diving topped off with a day of kayaking in the Rock Islands.



Palau offers some of the best wall diving anywhere in the world and the big sea life is truly a sight to behold. When diving in Palau it's never a question of whether you will see sharks on a dive. The question is how many different species you will see. Palau is also home to numerous WW11 shipwrecks.

After being away for three weeks it's time to think about going home, but not before stopping in Honolulu Hawaii for a visit of Pearl Harbor.

This really is a once in a lifetime trip and can be enjoyed by recreational and technical divers alike. Our 2010 trip is sold out but we still have availability on our 2011 trip which will replicate the 2010 trip. To reserve your place contact me at tyler@advancedexpeditions.com soon to avoid disappointment.

Diver and Instructor Training

We have a full range of courses for both open circuit and rebreather divers beginning in May. If you are interested in a specific course, drop me an email and we'll put it together for you this year!

Well this wraps up a long overdue newsletter. I hope each of you is enjoying good health and safe diving!

Tyler Bradford
tyler@advancedexpeditions.com
www.advancedexpeditions.com
(416) 458-5845