

Forum List	Blogs	Chat	Gallery	Forums	Live Feed	SB Store	What's New?	<input type="text"/>
New Posts	Private Messages	FAQ	Calendar	Community	Forum Actions	Quick Links	Help	Advanced Search

Forum Scuba Diving Central Advanced Scuba Discussions Diver Training: How much is enough?

+ Reply to Thread

Page 28 of 29 << First < ... 18 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 > Last >>

Results 271 to 280 of 287

Thread: Diver Training: How much is enough?

Like Be the first of your friends to like this.

Recommend this on Google

335 Likes



LinkBack	Thread Tools	Search Thread	Rate This Thread	Display
----------	--------------	---------------	------------------	---------

Today, 08:40 AM

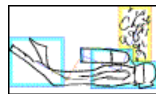
#271

rotuner

ScubaBoard Veteran



Mama said, "don't get wet"



Join Date: Nov 2002
 Location: Europe
 Dives: 1,000 - 2,499
 Photos: 4

Originally Posted by TraceMalin

My grandfather was born in 1899. ... [snip] ...
our educational system failed us.

You're not the only one, but there are several posters here on scubaboard who make a virtual tsunami of "argumentum ad antiquitatem" in favor of the old ways being better than the new ways.

What John tries to point out is that the old ways of teaching are not by virtue of being the old ways, necessarily better. What he tried to point out is his last post is that people will hold on to traditions *regardless* of the evidence that they are no longer the "best" and that even when "old horses" are lead to "fresh new water" they will still refuse to drink.

That's the essence of what he's saying to you. What you don't seem to understand is that the ad antiquitatem arguments rest on two assumptions:

- 1) that the old ways were the best ways to begin with and
- 2) the the context today is the same as it was "back in the day" which would imply that the old ways can still be applied with the same effect.

On the first assumption, I think we only need to look back in the DAN statistics to about 1970 or so (the good old days) to see that the number of fatal diving accidents was much higher (despite the pool of active divers being much smaller) than it is today. I would brazenly suggest that if the "old ways" were better that we would have seen much *lower* fatality rates before the training changes that lead to our current system. In other words, I honestly *doubt* the validity of that claim. Moreover, we have lots of good video of divers "back in the day". Jacques Cousteau put a lot of diving on film back in the day and when you look at that diving and interpret what you see with our modern "norms" in mind, then quite a lot of it looks toe-curlingly bad to me.

of course the "ad antiquitatem" crowd is now going to reply that going back to 1970 isn't far enough and we need to go all the way back to 1956 to find good examples of diving. BS, I say.... given what I know and we can factually verify from actual video and actual statistics, any claim that it all gets better and better the further back in time you look, is going to need verifiable *proof*.... After all Jacques Cousteau *was* the father of diving and if divers were SO much better in 1956 then there is no way to understand why he would have suddenly lost all of that amazing skill by 1970 when he started putting it on film.

iPhone Dive Computer, Underwater Camera, Dive Log, Digital Compass, and More...



The iPhone Goes Amphibian with iGills!

Now Shipping! >>

Do you Love



Become a Supporting Member Today!

On the second assumption. I think it's been pointed out over and over again that the cross section of society who want to learn how to dive, and the reasons they want to learn how to dive, are quite different now than they were in the "good old days". I don't think I need to parade out much proof of that. Those who argue that the old ways are better implicitly (and sometimes explicitly) argue that the current *context* is as much of a problem as the training. They believe that people who don't want to *be* like "grandpa" (to draw a parallel with your story), shouldn't be allowed to get diver training at all.

Not only is that unrealistic, but it's like John's teachers, holding on to the past despite evidence that the world has changed. It's like Thal suggesting to me earlier in this thread that if I just ignore the simple fact that "the McDonalds approach" is here to stay that I won't have to compete with it. Wishing the world hadn't changed since 1970 (or 1956) isn't going to make that change go away and it's not going to reverse it..... so the only reasonable way to proceed is to see it for what it is, to deal with it and yes, to embrace it.

The alternative is to slowly but surely turn into a "bitter old dinosaur" who is out of touch with reality.

When it comes to "man standards" I don't know anyone today who could beat a good old-fashioned farmer in general usefulness.

I had a grandfather too. Two of them, in fact. One was a violent alcoholic who routinely beat his children and was even known to assault his wife with a loaded hunting rifle while drunk. He died in a car accident. He was impaired and rolled his car into a ditch. IN the process he was thrown out and landed face down in the ditch, which was full of water. The car then rolled up on top of him and he drowned before he was able to die of his other injuries. To me, my "man standards" don't include driving drunk, beating children, threatening my wife with a gun or refusing to use a seatbelt.

The problem with stories like yours is that it you reason from the specific to the general, taking a sub-set of ONE and generalizing it to the entire population. I have no doubt, since you said so, that your grandfather was some kind of superman (at least it was to you) but it says nothing.... absolutely nothing about all men of his generation and less yet about the society that they lived in.

In my case, I'm pretty sure my "man standards" eclipse those of my grandfather.

R..

[Like](#) | [Share](#)

Hawkwood, rjack321 and TSandM like this.

[You will have to create the path by walking yourself; the path is not ready-made, lying there and waiting for you - Osho](#)

[Nominate!](#) [Blog this Post](#) [Report Post](#) [Reply](#) [Reply With Quote](#)

Today, 09:30 AM

#272

NetDoc

Chairman of the Board



is dreamin about diving.



Join Date: Jan 2001
Location: Key Largo, Florida, United States
Photos: 1429

Originally Posted by **TraceMalin**

It takes my entire group of high school friends (maybe 7 to 10 guys) to make one of my grandfather. The thing is my grandfather was pretty typical for guys in his generation.

Was he? We often judge a society by it's stand outs. Reality paints a far more dismal picture. Read any novel concerning people back then, like of Mice and Men. They had ignorant people back then just as we do now. They also had narrow minded people and fidiots galore.

**What has been will be again,
what has been done will be done again;
there is nothing new under the sun.** NIV

I over heard my son talking to one of his friends on Skype last week. He made me out to be some sort of God and it was kind of embarrassing. He went on and on about my ability to speak multiple languages, weld, machine, create parts when I had to, run a large web site, teach fly fishing, teach scuba, teach climbing, master certified auto technician, fixes boats and so on. It was probably the best Christmas present I had ever gotten. I don't really know anyone from my high school that any of this can be said about. Sure, they have their own accomplishments and many eclipse mine in some fashion. Still, I don't think you can base any judgement on my generation on me. I'm unique, just like everyone else! You're grandfather was also unique and sounds like a Renaissance man if ever one existed. Those are few and far between and anything but rare in any age.

It's easy to embellish the past and make it out to be far better than it was. But really, if it was so stinking great, why DID things change? Why did we evolve, or devolve as a few would suggest into what we are today? Heck, we live longer and have more free time on our hands. We know more about the world than ever before and our knowledge is still growing at a phenomenal speed. Our only crime is that most of us lack the sentimentalism to cling on to the old ways. In fact, there are a number of us who snicker when we consider some of the more antiquated methodologies of our predecessors and are frightfully glad that we can do things a bit more intelligently and concentrate on the aspects of diving we consider to be important. In other words, I'm glad that learning to dive has gotten easier and that it's easier for people to get into the sport. I believe that all dive training should be realistic and based on local conditions. No, I don't see a need for putting Vaseline on someone's mask to train them for a condition that my divers are never likely to encounter. I would rather spend that time on excellent buoyancy, trim, situational awareness and buddy skills with out ever introducing them to bad habits that contradict those skills. Your mileage may vary.

[Like](#) | [Share](#)

Solo otro día en el paraíso!
Hate wrapped in a prayer or sermon is still hate!
All you need is Love! 🇺🇸

Pete "NetDoc" Murray

[Nominate!](#)

[Blog this Post](#)

[Report Post](#)

[Reply](#)

[Reply With Quote](#)

Today, 10:06 AM

#273

NetDoc 🇺🇸

Chairman of the Board



CHAIRMAN

is dreamin about diving.



Join Date: Jan 2001
Location: Key Largo, Florida,
United States
Photos: [1429](#)

Originally Posted by **-hh**

One can always find a way to make good conditions bad ... its the reverse that's hard.

Why not stick to realistic scenarios? When we have seas above 4 feet here in the Keys we simply don't dive. When we hear that the vis is less than twenty feet we stay on the shore. Sure, one or two boats might make it out, but why would I want me or my students to dive in less than optimal conditions? One of the best lessons for any student to learn is my rule #2: You can call a dive at any time and for any reason: NO QUESTIONS ASKED! If our goal is to go see pretty fishes, then why on earth would we go when we can't see them? Now, if the goal is simply to prove how macho we are, then this would have some leverage. Unfortunately, I teach that it's not good to prove how macho you are when you dive.

Mind you, I do have my students do two dives off of Canon Beach at John Pennekamp National Park and the vis there is not so good and even worse if their non-silting skills are non-existent. The vis there is at best 20 feet and usually in the 5 to 10 foot range. I take them here for a few reasons. First, it's a really cool place to dive that's missed by most who come to dive here in the Keys. They get to see real Spanish canons and an anchor as well as a ton of juvenile fish and crustaceans on the reef wall. Second, it has an awesome silt plain. Oh my. One wrong kick and the vis is measured in fractions of an inch. You can forget about kneeling to do any skill here!!! 🇺🇸 Third, it's just perfect for students to learn how to follow a compass and there's a real goal at the end of the trek: another reef wall with more cool critters. Fourth, and probably the strongest reason, my students get to make their first OW dives without the pressure of TIME. On a boat, you simply have to abide by the captain's clock, and not your student's. I find this counter productive and it puts a limit on the student possibly before they are ready to cope with it. I never have to deal with current or surf either. Even when the boats can't go out, I can almost always teach at Canon Beach. By the time they are done here, the rest of the Keys are a piece of cake. Yummy crumb cake. The best part? This is realistic and the worst they will have to encounter where we dive. Of course, the added bonus is that we often get to see manatee and dolphin. Some even stop to play with us.

[Like](#) | [Share](#)

Solo otro día en el paraíso!
Hate wrapped in a prayer or sermon is still hate!
All you need is Love! 🇺🇸

Pete "NetDoc" Murray

[Nominate!](#)

[Blog this Post](#)

[Report Post](#)

[Reply](#)

[Reply With Quote](#)

Today, 10:08 AM

#274

TraceMalin

Tech Instructor



Going cave diving!



Join Date: Dec 2004
Location: Pocono Mountains
Posts: 1,168
Dives: 5,000 - ∞

Statistics need to be interpreted and individual interpretation can be flawed. You need only follow NFL statistics to see all that statistics don't tell you. We would have to do accident analysis on a case by case basis to discover what was happening. That's what the cave diving community did. We now have 5 Rules to live by and only one diver ever followed all 5 rules and perished. He was one of the best cave divers there was and a cave instructor and just happened to die in a collapse. But, there is more to that story too. He may have given his life so a friend could live. We have an additional 5 causes of cave diving accidents that divers may consider to reduce their risks.

We'd need to find out exactly what accidents were occurring, how deep, the activity involved, and a variety of factors before we could even hope to paint a picture of the role training plays. To illustrate this, suppose statistics told us that in 1970 there were 150 deaths, but each death took place in some extreme environment or in an extreme circumstance (i.e., cave, ice, below 200 feet, shark attack) and then suppose in 2012 we have 100 deaths, but each death occurred within the first 60 feet of the water column and 1/3 of those were surface drownings.

We still know very little about the role training plays. If no one died in shallow water in the 1970's then that may suggest that entry-level training was adequate, but training for extreme environments was lacking. Today, if we have no deaths in extreme environments, but far more in the 70's in shallow water, that could suggest our advanced level training has improved, but entry-level training needs to be improved.

[Like](#) | [Share](#)

Trace Malinowski
PSAI Americas
International Training Director
ITD-007
[Scuba Coach Trace](#)

They say that nobody is perfect. Then they tell you practice makes perfect. I wish they'd make up their minds. -- Wilt Chamberlain

[Nominate!](#)

[Blog this Post](#)

[Report Post](#)

[Reply](#)

[Reply With Quote](#)

Today, 10:17 AM

#275

NetDoc

Chairman of the Board



is dreamin about diving.

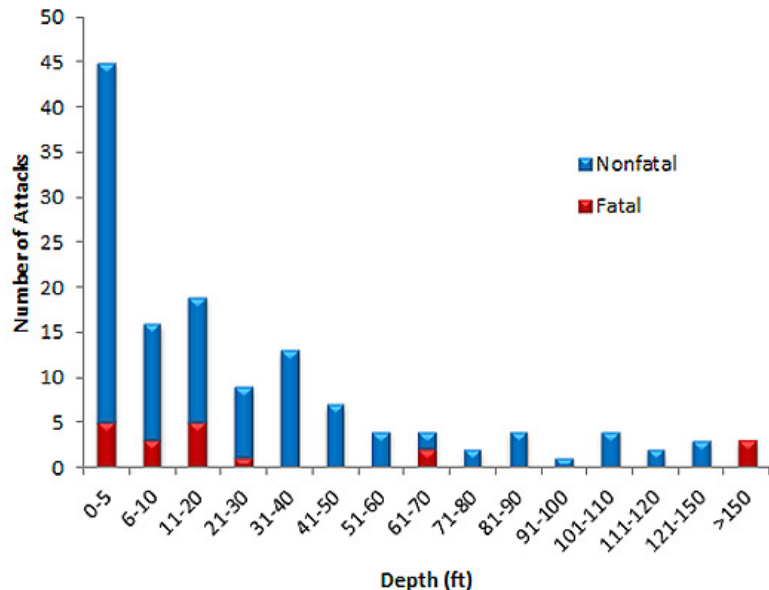


Join Date: Jan 2001
Location: Key Largo, Florida, United States
Photos: 1429

Lies, Damned Lies and Statistics! -Mark Twain (Samuel Clemons)

Consider this graph on shark attacks vs depths:

Depth of Shark Attacks on Divers (N=136)



Statistically, it's obvious that you should always dive deeper than 20 fsw and above 150



fsw to be the safest.

TraceMalin likes this.

Solo otro día en el paraíso! Hate wrapped in a prayer or sermon is still hate! All you need is Love! 🇺🇸

Pete "NetDoc " Murray

Nominate!

[Blog this Post](#)

[Report Post](#)

[Reply](#)

[Reply With Quote](#)

Today, 10:25 AM

#276

GShockey

Frequent Poster



Has not set a "status"

Join Date: Jul 2009
Location: Vancouver Island
Posts: 120
Dives: 2,500 - 4,999

Originally Posted by TraceMalin

One problem that I've found with the GUE method is that it makes it difficult for instructors who teach Tech 2 to remain current when they live in northern climates with shorter dive seasons. Fun dives often carry the pressure to make Tech 2 dives even if you'd rather do something else just in case you end up being short. They often come with great financial pressure as well. I think this is the biggest factor which creates instructor burn-out in the organization.

For the instructor level and above attending a renewal course every couple of years to put everyone on the same page again and hone rescue skills would be the way to go.

I think the industry would go for cards expiring every 5 years, but that's too long to accomplish the purpose of having C-cards expire. Three years would probably be the best trade-off between the PITA factor and retaining competency. Annually would be best, but too much of a PITA factor.

Yes, the degree of commitment required to stay current as a tech 2 instructor is high, but so is the responsibility you have agreed to take on as a tech 2 instructor. I don't think lowering the instructor standard to make it easier to stay current is part of our ethos. If the instructor is not regularly doing what they teach, how can they bring value to their students? As you probably already know, not only do we have to renew every year (which includes providing documentation about maintaining diving currency to the highest level of our teaching certification) but we also must re-certify by demonstrating our teaching ability both in a class room setting and in the water, every three years.

Yes, the amount of effort required to maintain instructor status in GUE is high, and it gets harder the further up the instructor ladder we go, but we have never been about lowering entry barriers or dropping these standards as this would not be in the best interests of our students.

Best,

Guy

Like | Share

TSandM likes this.

Nominate!

[Blog this Post](#)

[Report Post](#)

[Reply](#)

[Reply With Quote](#)

Today, 10:29 AM

#277

endurodog

Scuba Instructor



hasn't set a status.



Join Date: Dec 2010
Location: Colorado
Posts: 331

You say without reviewing each case individually to see what was happening. Then you go on to state that it is a training thing. There are other factors involved here. Fitness level, surf conditions, was it poor training and not course standards. Also when you talk about accident numbers you have to take rates into consideration. What percentage of accidents number of overall dives the dive community made to deaths. That makes the death rate now much less than then, many more divers and dives happening in 2012 vs. 1970. In the beginning you state we need to look to see whats really going on but in the end you make the jump that entry level training needs to be improved.

I for one would like to see a study done that really looks at the issue with a realistic approach that would let us know if there is a problem with the training model. If it is causing an issue, where it can be improved, where can we make it better for safe diving. Many on here like to bemoan training and take the mine is better or back in the day. All the while the best figures we have (I say best because some like to say how the figures are wrong but can provide none better) say our accident rates are lower now than back in the good ol days of whips and chain training. I'm sure it can be made better but where

would it have a realistic effect on those dive accident rates.

[Like](#) | [Share](#)

Nominate!

[Blog this Post](#)

[Report Post](#)

[Reply](#)

[Reply With Quote](#)

Today, 10:34 AM

#278

TraceMalin

Tech Instructor



Going cave diving!



Join Date: Dec 2004
Location: Pocono Mountains
Posts: 1,168
Dives: 5,000 - ∞

Originally Posted by **-hh**

On the first line, I thought that you were going to go a different direction with this, namely:

"As I was out hiking in the snow ... thoughts were - what is the minimum that I need to conduct this hike successfully under today's {ideal} conditions, and what more should I be prudently carrying in case the weather turned?"

I'm part Shawnee and had a survival knife strapped to my leg. That's the minimum.

If the weather turned I could have built a wigwam and put in cable or satellite TV. Same grandfather was a chief. However, in northeast PA it's really hard to find a place you can't walk out from cold, wet and miserable within hours. I did pass a couple of truly luxurious tree stands with blinds. One had a heater. Always pays to see what hunters leave in their stands in case of emergencies.

[Like](#) | [Share](#)

NetDoc likes this.

Trace Malinowski
PSAI Americas
International Training Director
ITD-007
[Scuba Coach Trace](#)

They say that nobody is perfect. Then they tell you practice makes perfect. I wish they'd make up their minds. -- Wilt Chamberlain

Nominate!

[Blog this Post](#)

[Report Post](#)

[Reply](#)

[Reply With Quote](#)

Today, 10:37 AM

#279

NetDoc

Chairman of the Board



is dreamin about diving.



Join Date: Jan 2001
Location: Key Largo, Florida, United States
Photos: 1429

Originally Posted by **endurodog**

I for one would like to see a study done that really looks at the issue with a realistic approach that would let us know if there is a problem with the training model.

The first rule of diving applies here: Don't hold your breath! If they can't attribute any single death to training, then how are they to determine a root cause for most of the accidents. The problem? No exit survey. The dead simply refuse to talk! For the most part, only they really know what happened and why.

[Like](#) | [Share](#)

Solo otro día en el paraíso!
Hate wrapped in a prayer or sermon is still hate!
All you need is Love! 🌍

Pete "NetDoc" Murray

Nominate!

[Blog this Post](#)

[Report Post](#)

[Reply](#)

[Reply With Quote](#)

TraceMalin

Tech Instructor



Going cave diving!



Join Date: Dec 2004
 Location: Pocono Mountains
 Posts: 1,168
 Dives: 5,000 - ∞

Pete, that shark attack stats post is my favorite post of all time.

----- Post added December 26th, 2012 at 10:49 AM -----

Originally Posted by **endurodog**

You say without reviewing each case individually to see what was happening. Then you go on to state that it is a training thing. There are other factors involved here. Fitness level, surf conditions, was it poor training and not course standards. Also when you talk about accident numbers you have to take rates into consideration. What percentage of accidents number of overall dives the dive community made to deaths. That makes the death rate now much less than then, many more divers and dives happening in 2012 vs. 1970. In the beginning you state we need to look to see whats really going on but in the end you make the jump that entry level training needs to be improved.

I for one would like to see a study done that really looks at the issue with a realistic approach that would let us know if there is a problem with the training model. If it is causing an issue, where it can be improved, where can we make it better for safe diving. Many on here like to bemoan training and take the mine is better or back in the day. All the while the best figures we have (I say best because some like to say how the figures are wrong but can provide none better) say our accident rates are lower now than back in the good ol days of whips and chain training. I'm sure it can be made better but where would it have a realistic effect on those dive accident rates.

Enduro,

I was going to mention a couple of these things in that post - one being fitness. You know how these scientists and statisticians would do that? Body Mass Index (BMI)! Yep, all we need is an NFL wide-receiver to drown and his death would be recorded as a lack of fitness because his BMI would say he was grossly obese.

[Like](#) | [Share](#)

NetDoc likes this.

Trace Malinowski
 PSAI Americas
 International Training Director
 ITD-007
[Scuba Coach Trace](#)

They say that nobody is perfect. Then they tell you practice makes perfect. I wish they'd make up their minds. -- Wilt Chamberlain

Nominate! | [Blog this Post](#) | [Report Post](#) | [Reply](#) | [Reply With Quote](#)

[+ Reply to Thread](#)

Page 28 of 29 | [First](#) | [...](#) | [18](#) | [23](#) | [24](#) | [25](#) | [26](#) | [27](#) | **28** | [29](#) | [Last](#)

Quick Navigation | [Advanced Scuba Discussions](#) | [Top](#)

[Quick Reply](#)

[Restore Auto-Saved Content](#)

[Post Quick Reply](#) | [Go Advanced](#) | [Cancel](#)

[« Previous Thread](#) | [Next Thread »](#)

Thread Information

There are currently 7 users browsing this thread. (5 members and 2 guests)
[-hh](#), [DCBC](#), [TraceMalin](#), [xyrandomyx](#), [Mustard Dave](#)

Similar Threads

Ready to plunge but how much is enough? By randytay in forum DIR	Replies: 33 Last Post: August 17th, 2011, 03:02 AM
New Diver Advice- How much gear to dive with? Too-much / Too-little? By UnderWaterFlyerGuy in forum Underwater Hunting	Replies: 6 Last Post: April 30th, 2011, 09:32 AM
How much training is enough By shakeybrainsurgeon in forum New Divers and Those Considering Diving	Replies: 62 Last Post: September 30th, 2006, 03:17 PM
How Much Time Is Enough By waterdogs in forum New Divers and Those Considering Diving	Replies: 9 Last Post: February 13th, 2002, 06:59 PM

Tags for this Thread

None
[View Tag Cloud](#)

[Add / Edit Tags](#)

Posting Permissions

You may post new threads	BB code is On
You may post replies	Smilies are On
You may post attachments	[IMG] code is On
You may edit your posts	[VIDEO] code is On
	HTML code is Off
	Trackbacks are On

Pingbacks are On
Refbacks are On

[Forum Rules](#)



LET US PREY™ Hoody
by Seven Tenths

[Visit Store](#)

Scuba Diving T-shirts and Apparel
Online Store, Shipping Worldwide

[Mares-Zeagle-Aeris-Tusa](#)

www.DiversDiscountFlorida.com

Oceanic-Bare-Sherwood - Ship Today Internet's Low Price Headquarters



[AdChoices](#)

SB 2012

[Contact Us](#) [ScubaBoard - Scuba Diving Forums and Social Network](#) [Archive](#) [Privacy Statement](#) [Terms of Service](#) [Top](#)

All times are GMT -5. The time now is 04:59 PM.

Powered by vBulletin® © 2012 vBulletin Solutions, Inc. and ScubaBoard All rights reserved.
Search Engine Friendly URLs by [vBSEO 3.6.1](#)
Image resizer by [SevenSkins](#)

vBulletin Optimisation by [vB Optimise](#).

[vBNominate v1.2.4](#) [vBulletin Mods & Addons](#) Copyright © 2012 DragonByte Technologies Ltd.
© 2000-2012 All content is copyrighted to ScubaBoard.com, except for the Photo Gallery and under prior arrangements.
Digital Point modules: [Sphinx-based search](#)