



# IAHD-Americas Newsletter

The Latest News from The International  
Association For Handicapped Divers



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## You Are Invited

Stop by Our Open House Mixer in Harleysville or Our Booth @ [Beneath the Sea](#)-Details Below

Dive into IAHD-Americas' fantastic new location, meet the staff, and enjoy some great refreshments this Thurs. March 19th! Discover the underwater world and an incredible team of people who love sharing their adventures--and some tempting door prizes too. Or, join us next week at Scuba's biggest consumer show, Beneath the Sea, in Seacaucus, NJ. We can't wait to tell you all about the fantastic recession-beating opportunities IAHD-Americas is offering divers, companion divers, instructors, dive centers, and resort operators.

Indian Valley Scuba & The International Association for Handicapped Diving are proud to host this year's

## Escape from Winter

### Business Card Mixer

For the Penn-Suburban Chamber of Commerce Members

**Thursday, March 19**  
**5:00 PM - 7:00 PM**

Where: The Academy of Deeper Education  
601 Yoder Road (corner of Yoder Rd & Rt. 113)  
Harleysville, PA 19438

## Training Matters

**March**  
17th - 18th Bonaire  
20th - 21st Grand Cayman

**April**  
4th - 5th Austin, TX  
25th - 26th Harleysville, PA

Dive professionals--Get the skills, experience & credentials needed to work with challenged individuals according to established standards and practices. Broaden your customer base and your horizons. For more information on Pro training go to: IAHD-Americas Pro Training Schedule.

## About IAHD-Americas

The International Association of Handicapped Divers (IAHD) is a global non-profit organization dedicated to sharing the magic of the underwater world with as many people as possible by offering adaptive scuba training. IAHD-Americas was established to bring the IAHD message and mission to the United States, Canada, Mexico, Central America, and the Caribbean. Based at the Academy of Deeper Education center in Harleysville, PA, the IAHD-Americas state-of-the-art dive training facility is within a one day's drive of over 100 million people. In-house and on-site training programs are being conducted from this location for dive centers, instructors and resorts throughout the territory.

## Quick Links

[IAHD-Americas Website](#)

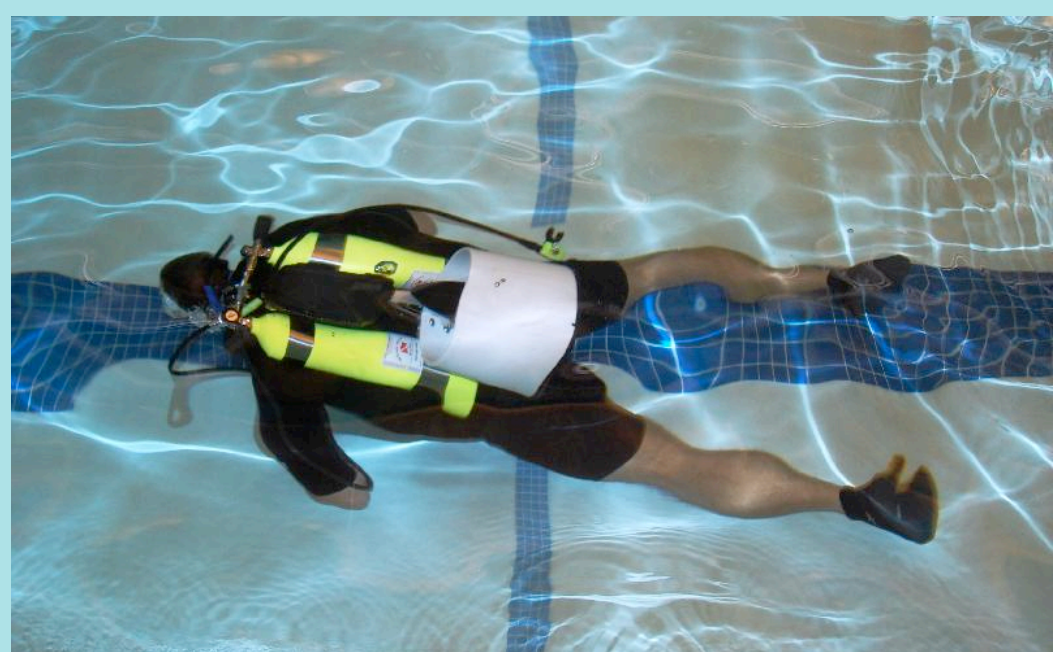
[Donate to IAHD-Americas](#)

[Get Involved with IAHD!](#)

## Just for Kicks

### Personal Diver Propulsion Vehicle (PDPV) By [ScubaGearPlus](#)

One of the challenges that handicapped divers face is the need to provide basic propulsion if they can't accomplish the natural fin kicks used in scuba. The PDPV from ScubaGearPlus allows the diver to cruise at a comfortable swimming speed with simple one-handed control. The entire system weighs less than 30 pounds and can be fitted in seconds using an easy to adjust backplate mount. For many IAHD divers, the PDPV is the key to a fun, comfortable, rewarding dive. The unit is easy to operate and an affordable and reliable investment for dive centers and resorts.



## Breakout Business Model Meets Breakthrough Opportunity

IAHD-Americas is offering dive centers, independent instructors and resort operators the training, support and structure they need to make adaptive scuba a viable and on-going part of their business rather than a sporadic charitable cause. IAHD-Americas leverages the strength and experience of its parent organization, IAHD International, which has been serving handicapped divers, companions, instructors, and affiliates successfully since 1991. While there are other agencies that promote adaptive scuba programs, one important distinction in the IAHD-Americas adaptive scuba business model is the fact that the handicapped divers are trained for free. The approach works because the IAHD diver's interests spread throughout their support circle to dive partners and enthusiasts who'll pursue scuba as an extension of the handicapped person. And this extensive group represents an untapped market segment that is virtually unreachable to dive centers that fail to embrace and promote diving to the special needs community. This is a truly win-win situation for the public and the dive industry.

To find out how your organization can reap these personal and professional rewards, [click here](#).

Come and visit the land of the Pharaohs with us!

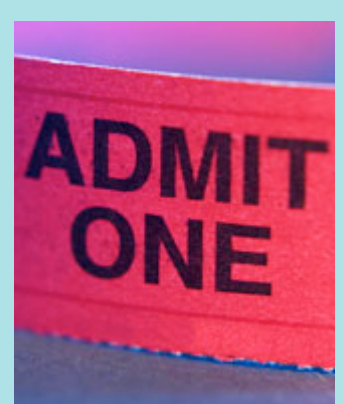
[Click here for details](#)

## That's the Ticket

IAHD-Americas & Learning Through Travel  
Pulling Out all the Stops at

[Beneath the Sea](#)  
March 27-29,  
Meadowlands Expo Center  
Booth 129

Come see IAHD-Americas in action at Beneath the Sea 2009. Not only will we be sharing how our divers exceed their limitations by diving; but how the dive industry can grow by bringing the magic of scuba to new markets. To add to the excitement, we will be raffling off a FREE 10 day all inclusive trip for two to Egypt, with all proceeds going to IAHD-Americas. This incredible offer would not be possible without the generosity of IAHD-Americas' Supporting Partner Darlene Buonauro, president of [Learning Through Travel](#). This package, valued at \$5,590, includes a ten day all-inclusive adventure for two to Cairo, Egypt, the Sinai and the Red Sea, plus diving on the Thistlegorm and the Straits of Tiran (value \$2795.00 per person).



## Magic in the Windy City

Last month IAHD-Americas Executive Director David Valaika took the IAHD message to Chicago for the annual Our World Underwater dive show. Hundreds of interested people came to learn about the opportunities IAHD Americas has to offer divers, instructors, dive centers, resorts, and operators. As a result, we are thrilled to announce a new sponsor, Deep Blue Adventures, this Ohio-based travel agency is totally devoted to divers and making "every dive the trip of a lifetime." For information, visit [www.bestdivetravel.com](#).

Visit Our Newest Sponsor:

