

# NAUI

# SOURCES

Dive Safety Through Education

July 8th 2021 Edition

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Cover Photo By: Alvanir S. Oliveira

Please Note:

All Photos Used in this Newsletter are From NAUI Members!

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Credit:Alvanir S. Oliveira

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# Members Photo Library

Thank you to all of the members for the photos that they have been sending. It is great to see what NAUI is doing worldwide.

Photos from the NAUI Members Library are featured in NAUI Sources, social media posts, marketing pieces and other NAUI promotions.

The NEXT Contest is to send in your best photo showing a photo of new NAUI Dive Master or Instructor. Go to <https://photolibrary.naui.org/> and upload a photo. Be sure to give us a brief description of the photo, what is happening in it and the names of those in the photo. We will announce the winner in the next NAUI Sources. The prize will be an Advanced Diver NES Kit.



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## Winner of the Sources Photo Contest!

**Congratulations** to Antonio Arcucci for their submission of this photo for the theme of Shipwrecks.

You will be receiving a NES Code of Advanced Diver NES Kit.



# Read The Darn Manual!

Written by Marty Snyderman

**A**cquiring new camera equipment is fun. Even though you know what is in the box, you shouldn't be surprised if you have that kid-on-Christmas-morning kind of feeling when you first open it. The gear is shiny and there is not a fingerprint or a smudge of any kind to be found. Wowza!

Believing the new equipment can be the key to realizing their photographic desires, the natural impulse of many underwater photographers is to assemble their camera system and take their new equipment on a dive ASAP, even if "dive" means something as mundane as a neighbor's swimming pool. Just get that baby into the water and let the magic happen.

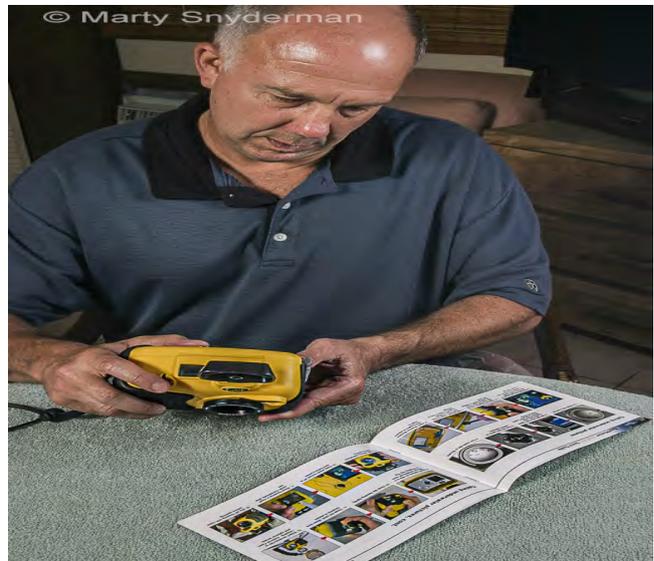
No doubt about it, diving and making photographs is the fun part. But my four-plus decades-long career tells me that going straight from out-of-the-box to into-the-water is leaving out some vital steps, reading the manual and making sure you understand the information within.

The pushback against reading and studying a manual usually involves the reality that many camera equipment manuals are painful to read. In so many cases they seem to be written by engineers for engineers, as opposed to being written for end users who are photographers, not engineers. To compound that problem, many photographic products are made in foreign countries and the manuals are translations of foreign languages. As is often the case, some things get lost in translation.

Based on my personal experience of seeing way too many photographers flood equipment and never really learn about the various features offered by their camera equipment or how to access various features, my strong suggestion is that you read the manual and get familiar with your equipment before you take a new piece of camera equipment on a dive. Painful to do? Perhaps. A key to photographic success? No doubt about it. The bottom line: Just do it!

## Study Manuals by the Feature

I am not suggesting that you read a camera or strobe manual from beginning to end in a single sitting. Instead, I suggest that you read a manual feature by feature. In essence, to learn what the various buttons and dials on a camera, housing, lens, strobe etc. do, read the relevant sections in the manual. Then, pick up the product, locate the button, wheel, or dial, and manipulate it so that you know how to access, change, and set the feature. It is all too easy to assume you completely understand how to find and use a feature, and another to actually go through the process.



As you go through this process with a camera, and perhaps a camera housing, you will want to be sure you learn how to set your f/stop, shutter speed, and ISO, select and use the focusing options, change shooting modes from manual, shutter priority, and aperture priority if possible, have your system increase and decrease exposures as desired etc.



## Read The Darn Manual

Features like these are far too nuanced for most people to learn in a one-time reading, especially in higher-end camera systems that provide more and more options with every passing year. You will want to be sure you familiarize yourself with the vernacular used by the manufacturer, the meaning of various icons on the buttons, dials, and wheels, the locations of various buttons, dials, and wheels, and perhaps, how to set or customize the controls.

The point I hope to impart here is that the time to learn about these features is on land before your dive not when things are happening underwater. After all, learning how to quickly focus a lens can be the difference between capturing a pleasing image like this one of a pair of spinner dolphins



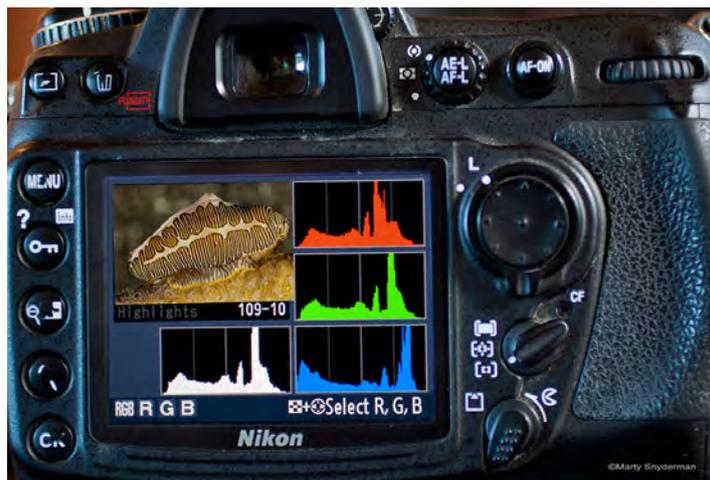
or a disappointing “going away” shot like this



Three more features you will likely want to know about are how to access your playback button, check the accuracy of your focus, and see your histogram. As its name suggests, your playback button enables you to review images you have captured so you can make any needed adjustments and re-shoot, if necessary, before looking for another subject. When reviewing an image in the playback mode it can be very useful to “zoom in on”, or enlarge, an image so you can “check the accuracy of your focus. Not all cameras offer this feature, but it is a valuable tool in cameras that do.



If you have learned how to interpret histograms, the ability to access your histogram, or histograms, when playing back an image will enable you to know if you nailed your exposure, and if you did not, what adjustment you need to make to acquire the proper exposure on a follow up shot.



Although some top-notch shooters rarely look at their histograms, I find histograms to be invaluable as they provide you with the ability to evaluate exposure and make a needed adjustment in a follow-up shot. In fact, I think of histograms as one of the biggest benefits of digital cameras. My advice is to learn how to access and evaluate your histogram in the water right after you capture an image, so you don't get disappointed by your results when you edit your pictures later.

It is equally important to read the manual for a strobe. These days, more and more strobes offer a wider variety of features and are made to be used with a number of cameras made by various camera manufacturers. In order for you to light subjects and scenes (like this Indonesian seascape) the way you hope to,



### Camera System Set Up

The more sophisticated a piece of camera equipment is, the more user-selectable options it will likely offer. As examples, many digital cameras come with the option of allowing the shutter to be released with no media card in the camera. Conversely, you can prevent the shutter from being released as a reminder to you that there is not a media card in the camera.

The point of mentioning these two possibilities is that in many cameras, the user can choose their desired option. Personally, I'll opt for the reminder every time as I see no reason to allow the camera to seem like it is capturing images when it is not.

various settings on the strobes need to be established.



Seriously, who wants a blank frame like this



As an example, a switch might need to be set in one position if the strobe is set up to be used with an electrical synch cord and in another position if the strobe is triggered through the use of a fiber optic cable. Another example worth noting is that for a strobe to be successfully used to provide a correct "automatic exposure", a particular switch might need to be set in a specific way that is different than how the switch needs to be set for manual exposures.



when you thought you were capturing this image of an oncoming manta ray that is feeding on plankton during a night dive off Kona, Hawaii,



or a heart-warming manatee?



Unfortunately, too many underwater shooters fail to learn about the features provided by their camera, lenses, and strobe. I often hear these shooters making negative comments about their strobe and camera system when really the fault lies with their failure to take the time to read and understand the information in their product manuals.

## Read The Darn Manual

Another must-mention feature involves the selected color space in your camera. My guess is that many people who read this piece will not be familiar with the meaning of the term color space. While it can be a bit of a long, detailed discussion, the selection of a color space boils down to whether you want your camera to manipulate the colors in your images or if you want to be 100% in charge of the way various colors appear.

While I recommend that you familiarize yourself with the concept of color space, if you are capturing jpegs, I strongly suggest that you set the color space in your camera to Adobe RGB (1998)- aka Adobe RGB. For reasons I have never understood, many cameras come with the default color space selection set to sRGB. If you are capturing jpegs, this color space irretrievably throws away a lot of the color information in your files when you make a photograph.

If you are capturing RAW files, your color space selection is made on your computer when you manipulate your images, meaning the color space set in the camera does not apply.

Frankly, unless you have pressing deadlines to make with images that will only be shown online, I see no reason to select the color space sRGB in camera. The sRGB color space is designed to optimize the appearance of colors of images viewed on the web. This color space can be selected for copies shown online at a later time without losing any colors in the original file that uses the Adobe RGB (1998) color space. The selection of Adobe RGB will allow you to optimize for print or the internet at a later time.

You won't learn about color space by reading your camera manual, but if you are shooting jpegs, the color space set in your camera at the instant you make a picture will apply, and you will irretrievably throw away color information if your camera is set to the sRGB color space.



### Don't Break Me and Don't Flood Me

Assembling camera systems can be a tricky exercise, especially the first few times you go through the process with a new system or a new component. Equipment manuals often provide an explanation of “do’s and don’ts” that can help you avoid being too heavy handed and breaking something such as a battery compartment door or electrical connections between a camera (camera housing) and strobe. Battery doors in many cameras and strobes should be opened and closed in a specific way, and synchronization cords that connect a strobe to a camera need to be properly aligned to avoid breaking the pins and receptacles that enable the electrical connections.

Information about the proper way to assemble and disassemble equipment is prominently placed in many manuals.

A manual for a camera housing or strobe will also contain some important information regarding the O-rings and seating surfaces that work together to keep cameras, lenses, and the insides of strobes dry and working. Even though you might not be an underwater photographer, if you are an experienced diver, you have probably dealt with the O-rings in tank valves, regulators, and dive lights. This means that you probably know that poorly maintained O-rings leads to flooded equipment.



You might also know that O-rings require lubrication as well as cleaning. At least, that is the case with some O-rings. While a light coat of silicone grease will extend the life of and help you feel debris on many O-rings, silicone grease can cause other O-rings to swell.

A swollen O-ring can result can result in flooded equipment.

The point I want to make here is that not all O-rings are the same. Various O-rings are made of different compounds. While a light coat of silicone grease is beneficial for some O-rings, other O-rings should not be lubricated at all. Regarding those O-rings that can benefit from a lubricant, the lubricant suggested by the manufacturer is the lubricant that should be used. All other lubricants should be avoided. You should be able to find this vitally important information in your product manuals.

### Learn How and Why to Select and Set Your Focusing and Light Metering Option

As cameras get more sophisticated, there are more focusing options for the user to select. That is both the good news and the bad news. The good news is that if you have set your focusing option to match the type of shooting you are doing at a given time, the better your chances are of being right on target with your focus. The bad news is that if your selected focusing option is not a good match for your shooting scenario, disappointment is likely on your horizon.

Some cameras offer the ability for the lens to establish focus on a desired subject, and once focus has been established, for the lens to stay focused on the selected subject even though the subject moves and the lens-to-subject distance changes. This is a wonderful feature for subjects such as a swimming turtle, lobster walking across the sea floor, or fast-moving subjects such as the playful California sea lions (pictured here), dolphins, and sharks.



But the focusing feature only works as desired if it is properly selected and you understand that you might need to continuously depress a specific button to cause the lens to maintain its focus. You might be asking yourself “how you learn about the various focusing options?” The answer is easy. Read the darn manual!

Knowing how to access and select the desired light metering option for a given shooting scenario can be an important consideration in any setting in which you want to record a properly exposed blue water background, as was the case when photographing a pair of divers admiring a tube sponge in Curacao.

You will want to know if your light meter is reading a very narrow area (spot metering), a larger area in the center of your frame (center-weighted metering), averaging the entire frame with emphasis on the center (evaluative, matrix, and other terms used by various manufacturers), or set for back-lighting scenarios.

In this article, I cannot possibly go through every piece of information you can learn when you read and study the manuals for the components in your camera system. But I do hope I have shared enough examples of how helpful it can be to take your time to carefully read and be sure you understand the information in a manual as you learn about a new camera, lens, camera housing, or strobe. Making sure you understand the provided information can be the factor that enables you to consistently acquire the photograph you envisioned.



So, do yourself a huge favor and make it your practice to read the darn manual!



# Where can you find NAUI?

NAUI is active in so many places.

This edition I would like to take note that Time To Dive Belgium has a new owner !

After 32 years of being active in the EU dive industry, established in 1990 by founder/owner and NAUI Representative, Jean-Marc Claes, the Time To Dive, dive center in Belgium has got new owners.

NAUI Instructor Dennis Gryniewicz and his partner Johanna Rediers are taking over the dive-shop, divecentre, and dive school, and will continue to grow Time To Dive in the future.

With a private pool within the divecentre, they can teach day long private courses, which has always been the primary focus of Time To Dive.

Also located within a short distance, they have access to one of the most unique purpose built dive facilities in the world: a 10mtr deep warm water basin filled with 5000+ fish, caves, wrecks, a tunnel and so much more that creates possibilities for diving 365 days a year.

Belgium, situated in the middle of Europe, is a great place to visit and combining this with scuba diving (and training) is a super extra deal.

Time To Dive is a NAUI Professional Training center with private NAUI professional courses at any time you would like.

Why come to Europe?

Combine a visit to Europe with your instructor course, that's why!



Credit: Karen Erens

# SCANDI DIVERS RESORT

## Puerto Galera, Philippines

Indulge yourself in the secluded tropical paradise of Puerto Galera. Situated on the untouched magical island of Mindoro.

We are 2-3 hours away from the international gateway of Manila by van and boat, or 30 minutes by seaplane.

Scandi Divers Resort is located in relaxed Big La Laguna Beach which has pristine white sands and crystal clear blue water. Explore forty world class dive sites which are just minutes away from the resort. Our unmatched marine biodiversity has the highest number of species on the whole planet.

We have over forty rooms many of which overlook the beautiful blue sea. Enjoy the panoramic view from our Skyview restaurant. Our chefs prepare an international menu of delicious meals that will tantalize your taste buds.

The Philippine people will welcome you with open arms, our service will leave you feeling relaxed and rejuvenated during your stay at Scandi Divers Resort. Discovering our two kilometer long reef is undoubtedly the highlight for most people on holiday in Puerto Galera. Diving on our amazing reefs brings you face to face with more biodiversity than the Caribbean and Great Barrier Reef combined! This is what makes Puerto Galera one of the most popular Scuba Diving destinations in the Philippines, and is well known in Scuba communities all over the world.

Your Scuba Diving adventure in Puerto Galera will immerse you in a colorful underwater world, filled with an incredible variety of corals, fish and incredible (and sometimes bizarre) sea creatures. If you are diving or snorkeling on our house reef, you may be lucky enough to swim with one of the sea turtles that nest near our resort.

With over 40 dive sites within just ten minutes boat ride of our resort, you are never far from the action. We offer all NAUI Scuba Diving Courses for beginners through to Instructor and all Tec courses and our experienced and friendly diving instructors teach in English, Chinese, Tagalog, Danish, Swedish, Spanish and Italian and others.



Our recently refurbished Dive Center can accommodate up to 65 divers, and we now have a five-station camera room for our underwater photographers!

Scandi Divers Resort, has a wide range of rooms and suites to choose from. A large percentage of our rooms are oceanfront, so you can make the most of the incredible ocean views from Big La Laguna Beach.

Located ten minute's walk from the center of the bustling little town of Sabang, Big La Laguna Beach affords our guests a peaceful and family friendly environment, whilst being close enough to Sabang that guests can easily go back and forth as they please. Sabang is well known for its energetic nightlife, and when you've had enough, it's just a hop and a skip back to the serenity of Big La Laguna Beach.

Our Sky Bar & Restaurant sits atop our Beachfront Restaurant, with a commanding view out over the ocean that is nothing short of spectacular. The Sky Bar and the Beachfront Restaurant downstairs both offer International, Filipino and Western cuisine, and of course, seafood that is out of this world.

You'll find friendly and personalised service at Scandi Divers Resort, and you will always remember the amazing hospitality and warmth of the people here in Puerto Galera.

Enjoy browsing through our website, <https://scandidivers.com/> and please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions. We look forward to meeting you! Follow us on your favorite social media platforms for news, special offers, photos, videos and more!



# NAUI Flag Ship SY Blowing Bubbles

**L**aunched June 22th 2021, the NAUI Flagship SY Blowing Bubbles has started its world tour, starting from France (Europe) towards the Canary Islands (Spain), staying there until October 2021 and next crossing the Atlantic Ocean towards the Caribbean Sea in December 2021. For 2022 and 2023, many Caribbean islands will be visited to scuba dive the best sites the Caribbean sea has to offer. On board the SY Blowing Bubbles, you will always meet the 2 owners, Karen Erens and Jean-Marc Claes, both from Belgium and multilingual (8 languages spoken).

Karen and Jean-Marc are longtime NAUI Instructors (and even Course Directors) and active in the worldwide dive industry since 1990, having experience and dived in over 100 countries, even organizing expedition diving in the Antarctic waters. They offer on board training to the highest possible NAUI levels, on top of the daily diving for those who wish to spent a week (or more) on board for a private charter. The sailing yacht can accommodate 4 guests in 2 very comfortable cabins and carries all dive equipment (except dive suits) including 300Bar/4500PSI dive tanks and 2 installed compressors. A ROV or underwater drone helps to identify reefs and wrecks without losing precious dive time and safety does matter: a complete medical kit, including AED, Oxygen and so much more is on board! Divers are equipped with Nautilus Lifeline systems, so getting lost is not part of the trip! Kids are welcome and the dive equipment is available in all sizes. Besides diving, sea-kayaks, SUP's and even a strong-powered tender providing water-sport possibilities (waterboard, tubing) are on board. Food and drinks are to International Standards and a wish list is offered to those coming on board!

If you are looking for a real unique experience in your private bubble or want to get trained as a NAUI professional to the highest possible level of quality, you can contact Karen and Jean-Marc via: [info@blowingbubbles.eu](mailto:info@blowingbubbles.eu). You can also follow the adventures of the SY Blowing Bubbles via [www.blowingbubbles.eu](http://www.blowingbubbles.eu).



## Join Us for the Next NAUI Talk

**E**very two weeks the NAUI Marketing department runs the NAUI Talk webinar series with guest presenters, speakers, and discussions. Each topic is an opportunity for NAUI members around the world to build and succeed in their businesses. Sessions range from 30-60 minutes, time well spent!

The next session where we will feature “How to make a unique offering to attract New Divers. July 13th”. We will look at how you can create an advantage and bring more new customers and students to your operation. If you are a store, resort, independent instructor, or professional educator this presentation is for you!

The invitations will go out, but why wait? Use the link below and sign up now! Feel free to pass this link to your fellow divers!

Please click here to sign up: Register in advance for this webinar:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_GH6o0BCZRtCARrmREYcZQ](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_GH6o0BCZRtCARrmREYcZQ)



Upcoming Talks.

How to make your online presence more professional. July 27th

Check out Previous sessions of NAUI Talk by going to NAUI TV -

Click Here: <https://www.youtube.com/c/NAUITV>



# NAUI'S DIVE TO CHANGE



Credit: Force Blue

**F**or more than 60 years, NAUI has been committed to the environment and encouraging members to support and preserve the planet.

Our sustainability initiatives focus on partnering with conservation minded companies, eliminate waste within our operations, and change the way we create products and services to be a better advocate for our divers

## **NAUI in Action!**

- Superbowl Legacy Reef Project
- Partnering alongside Force Blue, Pepsi, NFL Green and many other organizations.
- Together with scientists from the University of Miami's Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science, harvested and transplanted 100 staghorn corals on to a section of reef in Biscayne Bay, Florida.
- Force Blue also kicked off 100 Yards of Hope at Super Bowl LIV.
- We are continuing to work alongside Pepsi Stronger Together and help promote their Coastal Conservation Ops Summer Tour.

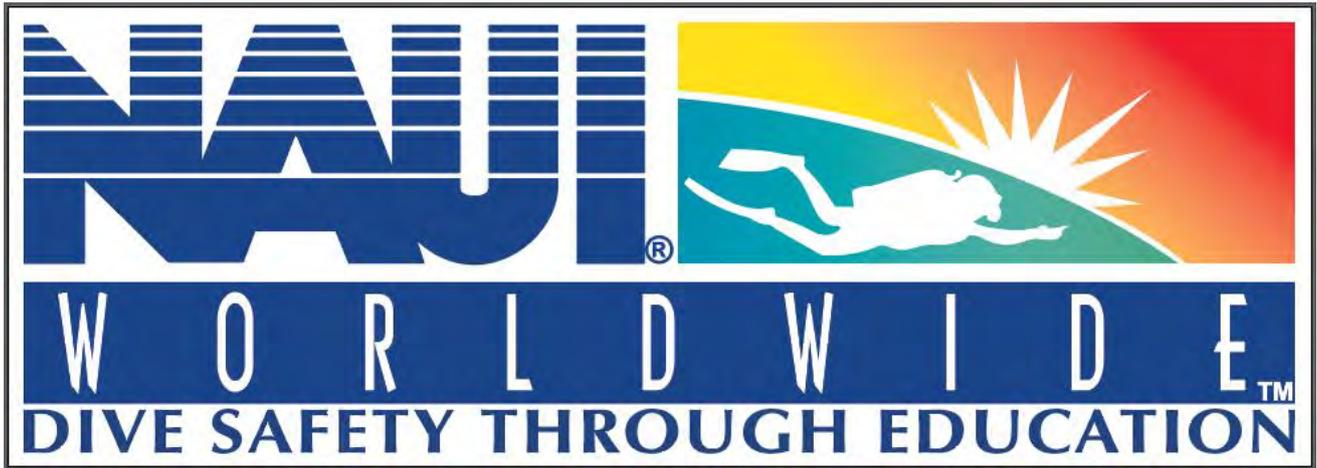
## **Steps to Sustainability!**

- The newest update to the NAUI App V3, features all your digital certification cards, specialized NAUI tools based on your certification, and many more features to get you quick NAUI news and updates. Download for Apple or Google Play now.
- We have partnered with StepChange™ Clothing to offer sustainable NAUI clothing. Apparel created with comfortable fabrics that re purposed recycled bottles. Launching end of Summer 2021.
- Along with our apparel upgrade we are introducing Recycled Certification Cards. Go digital with your card or trade-in your current plastic certification card and get an eco-friendly card. The trade-in program is set to launch end of summer 2021.

There are many NAUI Groups and members working to make this planet a safer and more sustainable place. Our promise is to continue to focus on nature, waste production and strengthen our commitment to encouraging members to support and preserve this planet.

# NAUI Leadership Training Reference Manual

by Tom Hemphill



We are drafting a NAUI Leadership Training Reference Manual for NAUI ITs and CDs, and we want your input. This manual will focus on issues and questions that new ITs and CDs have that need to be addressed in order to be more productive and successful with leadership training. We are also including many Tips and Hints from experienced CDs that have learned a lot over the years of directing NAUI ITCs. Please contact our team and ask your questions and Please share what you've learned so we can include your experience in the manual.

**Please contact our team and ask your questions and please share what you've learned so we can include your experience in the manual.**

The sections that we are drafting include:

1. WHY NAUI – Defining the Features and Benefits of NAUI and Why NAUI is a better choice for new divers and diving instructors. Selling the NAUI Brand is a critical element in your personal success as a NAUI Leader. The NAUI Marketing Committee has focused on NAUI Features and Benefits and how we differ from the competition. The two issues that are at the top of the list are Academic Freedom and Public Speaking skills. Simply put, we TEACH TEACHERS.

2. BUSINESS OF NAUI LEADERSHIP TRAINING – Focusing on the benefits of teaching NAUI leadership programs and conducting NAUI ITCs. Explaining how you can network with other CDs and ITs in your region to “Team Teach” leadership programs.

3. SELLING THE NAUI DIFFERENCE – Strategies on how to sell the NAUI BRAND.

4. LEADERSHIP COURSE ORGANIZATION AND SCHEDULING – Covering Facilities, Staff, Accommodations, Food, Lodging and more.

5. STAFF ORGANIZATION AND TRAINING – Covering how to select, motivate and train staff. Utilizing guest presenters and crossover candidates to assist at trainers and using mentors and coaches.

6. TIPS AND HINTS – Course Directors that have a lot of experience will be sharing some Tips & Hints that you may choose to use in your leadership training.

Please submit your questions and Tips & Hints. Our ultimate goal is to develop highly skilled NAUI Instructors that are true “TEACHERS” through the ITC process.



Credit: Alvanir S. Oliveira

## Announcements / News

Check out what NAUI Members are doing and let us list your events on the NAUI Sources Site. These can be courses, Environmental Clean Ups, or more. Simply email your event information to [marketing@nauai.org](mailto:marketing@nauai.org) and help us keep NAUI divers informed.

<https://sources.nauai.org/category/news/>



Credit: @wahyumul

## Promote your events!

Take a look at upcoming courses, environmental clean ups, special events and more.

Don't forget to tell us about your events so that we can list them too. Simply email your event information to [marketing@nauai.org](mailto:marketing@nauai.org) and help us keep NAUI divers informed.

<https://www.nauai.org/events/>



Credit: Carolyn Wagner

## SCUBA Industry Careers – Check the NAUI jobs!

Looking for a career change? Are you looking for a NAUI Dive Professional? This is the place to go.

Posting career opportunities is simple. All you need to do is to email the job title, description, location and who interested members should contact to [marketing@nauai.org](mailto:marketing@nauai.org) and we will get the message out to NAUI members.

<https://www.nauai.org/careers/>



Credit: Alvanir S. Oliveira

**That's All for this Week, But...**

**For NAUI Sources to Continue to Provide  
an Amazing Newsletter, We Need Help  
from You!**

**Send in your Articles, Photos, Events, and  
Anything Else that you want to share with  
the rest of the NAUI Community, we look  
forward to receiving your content, which  
you can send to [marketing@nau.org](mailto:marketing@nau.org).**