

Caiger's Resort and Thousand Island Pleasure Diving

-Something Old and Something New -

by Terry Irvine

The 2010 Dive Season was one of the best on record. A mild spring combined with a warm summer produced some excellent dive conditions in the St. Lawrence River and many people took advantage of it.

As "word of mouth" spreads and the 1000 Islands gain in popularity as a world class dive destination, Caiger's Resort and 1000 Island Pleasure Diving have responded to improve both the resort and charter operations to meet the demands.



Upgraded Rooms

After some hard work last winter, Caiger's Resort re-opened this spring with new improved rooms, new improved upper patio, new dining area and upgraded menu. The awesome breakfast has remained, and the popular dinner time menu items (read Prime Rib dinner) are also still available.

Food is now also available during the day on the upper patio. This has been popular with divers and others who always seem to have an "appetite" after a day on the water! The variety and quality of food is excellent. In the evening, the upstairs provides a full service bar and food. It is a great spot to recall the day's adventures.



1000 Island Pleasure Diving has also responded to the increased demand.

In addition to the *Pleasure Diver*, the *Island Diver* and the *Osprey*, 1000 Island Pleasure Diving has two (2) 24-foot Rigid Hull Inflatables which can be launched for diving in either the St. Lawrence River, or the Kingston, Lake Ontario area. *Lake Diver 1* and *Lake Diver 2* provide the opportunity to explore shipwrecks along the entire St. Lawrence waterway from Kingston to Morrisburg.



Lake Diver 1

Dive fill logistics are easier than ever. At the end of a day of diving, The Rockport-based charter boats can drop off tanks directly at Rockport Dive Center for fills. Rockport Dive Center can provide, air, Nitrox or even Trimix fills.



Late day fills are possible by appointment.

Dive Tech Training Center in nearby Mallorytown is also available for fills, equipment rentals, equipment purchases and training. All a diver's needs can easily be accommodated.



I have been a repeat customer to both Caiger's Resort and 1000 Island Pleasure Diving for 10 years, and the improvements made have certainly added to an already pleasant vacation destination.

This year, I was able to introduce my son, William to scuba diving in the 1000 Islands. The location offers diving opportunities for both the newly certified diver as well as the seasoned underwater explorer.



Terry and William on the Osprey—heading to the next dive

Photo: P. Vaudreuil

There are numerous wrecks at both the Rockport and Brockville location, and there is something for every skill level.

The St. Lawrence River is generally warmer than the adjacent Great Lakes and with natural protection from the wind, this area can offer an extended diving season.

We make Caiger's Resort and 1000 Island Pleasure diving our first and last dive outing of the year. It is not unusual to have good conditions in the river from the end of April to the beginning of November. Water temperatures during the summer months can exceed 70°F (21°C). It is not uncommon to have water temperatures exceeding 65°F (18°C) into October.



Photo: T. Irvine

William exploring the Keystorm



Photo: T. Irvine

Divers Exploring the America

Both Caiger's Resort and 1000 Island Pleasure Diving offer special packages for larger groups and for midweek excursions. See their websites for further details.

If you have not seen what all the fuss is about in the 1000 Islands, there has never been a better time for you to check out Caiger's Resort and 1000 Island Pleasure Diving. The location is within driving distance from New York, Detroit, Toronto, Montreal and even Quebec City.

For those of us that have included the 1000 Islands on our yearly getaway, I am sure that you are enjoying "something old" and "something new" at Caiger's Resort and 1000 Island Pleasure Diving.

I hope to see our many friends at Rockport again in 2011. Make sure to book early so you won't be disappointed.

Safe Diving always, Terry Irvine

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