



www.scubaemporium.com

Scuba Emporium

16336 S 104th Avenue Orland Park, IL 60467
(708) 226-1614

1988 Why I did Historian Diver?

I was running the International PADI Instructor Training Center at this time and my partner, Ralph, asked me to put together a program to show the history of diving from as far back as I could find. I accepted the challenge. In fact, he always challenged me and I learned a lot from this in the long run. What was cool was when I started to read about the history and looked back; I was actually looking at 1943 when Jacques Cousteau developed the Aqua Lung. I read and dug deeper and found how dive tables were developed in the very early 1900's before SCUBA. Now I was interested and started digging deeper. Well, I started to learn and read about many different ways man tried to get under water. There were some very rough designs, from sheep bladders for air pockets, to wooden chambers you lay in, and then an upside-down bell. I read back another 1000 years to learn about the pearl divers and how they used turtle shells and goggles. So now I had the course and it was time to write. But after a few days I realized it may be boring, so I started taking pictures (we did not have the internet). I made a slide show to complement the program. It was a lot of fun to teach and really showed the history of diving. I later read a book by Bob Marx and today I reference it as well. Our industry sure did have a rough growing curve and we had a lot of men sacrifice their lives so we can enjoy the underwater world. I still love to teach this class and look forward to seeing some of you in one of them. If you like history, learn about the SCUBA history.

E mail me at Patrick@scubaemporium.com