



Scuba Emporium

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

1988 Underwater Modeling

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Wow this one brings back so many memories. We would be teaching photo classes and out at the lake we would have the non-dive spouse or friend tag along for the dives. In many cases we were on a dive trip. I would see the new photo student trying to tell their partner, NO you go over there, pose and let me take a picture, as well as control your breathing. Well; try doing that at 50 feet; I saw a need for the model to understand what to do. So back to the pen and typewriter and I started to develop this program.

First I knew I would need signals and then, I needed to work with the model so they knew what we were asking. Like most of you know; a photo loaded with bubbles especially around the face and eyes takes a lot away from a nice picture. But then, I could not teach people to pose and hold their breath. So my first important task was to teach proper breath control. I needed the model when they were signaling to slow the breathing down and to exhale and then take the next inhalation very slow. This worked well. We now were getting pictures with no bubbles around the mask. I do like bubbles that are above the diver it adds to our depth of field and enhances some photos. So always watch the bubbles and time them, so they show for the best placement. Now we had to teach the model how poses, we want them to look as natural as possible yet hold tight in one spot so we can capture that perfect picture. We found some nice ways to make that work and even today get some great pictures with what looks to be a natural pose.

Control bouncy, now that is a trick, we need the model to stay in one spot long enough for us to get a few shots. Again we found some ways to accomplish this goal and get the natural result we were looking for. Today I suggest the model complete the Peak Performance Buoyancy course first. This has helped us out a lot.

Courtesy to other divers, well today this is almost all gone, I am sorry to have to write that. As a photographer I always drop in get my shot and slip away, allowing the next divers in. I am amazed today that this has fallen off so bad. I see two and even three diver's with cameras trying to get in a small area that one will not fit. Where is the respect for the marine life, reef and other divers? As a photographer you need to be polite. I might suggest just wait till everyone leaves and then move in. I have captured some excellent pictures this way. Now as for the model, they need to have respect for others and not scare off the subject. They need to



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allow the other divers in to the area to see and capture the picture. So respect for divers and Mother Nature is an important skill and understanding for the model.

The underwater Modeling course has helped strengthen many relationships and keep couples happily diving.

Patrick Hammer

PADI COURSE DIRECTOR and Founder

SCUBA EMPORIUM, Orland Park, Illinois