

enjoy, dive, snack, drink, watch, review photos, and prepare cameras more fun! Above all else, the crew was always smiling and cheerful, ready to help in every way possible. Check out my web page: <http://e-diver.spaces.live.com>

**Nai'a, July 2007, Harvey Schecter, Lilburn, GA.** Experience: Over 1000 dives. Vis: 100 to 125 Feet. Water: 80 to 81 F, calm, choppy, surge, currents. A great boat — clean and well maintained with cheerful, helpful crew. Good food and world-class diving. Sonia, the hostess and divemaster, was one of the best I have ever encountered — knowledge of the reefs and fish and critter identification; enthusiastic, helpful and friendly. Superb briefings followed by knowledge of the hangouts of critters. Definitely plan to return. UW Photography Comments: Camera room with lint-free towels, compressed air, 110v and 240v outlets.

## HAWAII

### Kona

**Kona Aggressor, January 2007, George Entwisle, Cashiers, NC.** Experience: 251-500 dives. Vis: 100 to 125 Feet. Water: 73 to 76 F, calm, surge, no currents. The diving and the operation were both above board. Each day the diving got better and better. Not a lot of coral, but lots of fish. Have never seen so many different types of fish species as there are in Hawaii. It was totally amazing.

**Kona Aggressor, April 2007, Ed Heimiller (heimiller@att.net), Streamwood, IL.** Experience: 200+ dives. Vis: 50 to 70 feet. Water: 74 to 78 F, calm and flat. This was the best-run, cleanest boat I have been on. The food was plentiful and great. The crew was helpful

and friendly. The only down side is a small and crowded area to suit up.

**Kona Aggressor II, September 2007, Russ Battisto (Russ\_Battisto@comcast.net), Roseville, MN.** Experience: 501-1000 dives. Vis: 40 to 100 Feet. Water: 77 to 80 F, choppy, surge. Flew in the night before and stayed at the King Kam's Kona Beach Hotel near the pier. It is in need of a remodel job. Clean, though. Aggressor van will pick you up from any of the nearby hotels in Kailua, Kona. The boat was wonderful, although they were experiencing engine problems (running with only one). And no nitrox on this trip but the profiles were easy enough that it wasn't a huge issue. Little current, if any, and some moderate surge near shore that made picture-taking a challenge at times. Great crew and excellent food. The diving was easy and fun. At first I was surprised at the lack of big coral until I realized that the lava flows we were diving on were only about 50 years old, which in coral time is nothing. There is a lack of big fish, but the little stuff was plentiful and colorful against the lava or black sand. Dolphins were around as well as eagle rays and the mantas. Manta Ray Night Dive: sensory overload! The engine problems limited us, so we stayed at the same site for the 2 morning dives and went to another site for the 2 afternoon dives and the night dive. This tended to make me less interested in doing both the 2nd afternoon and/or the night dive as it would be 3 times on the same site. Rooms were clean and nice. Mary and I had the quad to ourselves upstairs behind the bridge. nice! Weather cooperated and water temp was tolerable but I did switch from my shorty to my 5 mm in the afternoon/night dives. The camera table is well suited, equipped and big enough to handle all the activity. Clean

conditions and helpful staff made my photo and video setup and cleanup experiences enjoyable.

## MICRONESIA

### Palau

**Palau Aggressor, November 2006, Tom Dwyer (tdwyer@bigplanet.com), Kailua, HI.** Experience: Over 1000 dives. Vis: 40 to 80 Feet. Water: 82 to 84 F, calm, currents. We were a very experienced group of divers led by Orbit Marine in Bridgeport, CT. The crew was great, they went the extra mile to accommodate us in every way. They were very professional and friendly. The diving was very good and the conditions were spectacular.

**Palau Aggressor II, November 2006, Bill Shepherd (Chorsejbs@aol.com), Satellite Beach, FL.** Experience: Over 1000 dives. Vis: 75 to 200 Feet. Water: 81 to 83 F, calm. Capt Mike and his crew easily set the example for live-aboards in the Pacific. Staff members are professional, dedicated, and keep customer service foremost. Divers are provided with EPIRBs, alerts and sausages if needed. Rooms are spacious, with ample storage space, and are well maintained throughout the week. Food is plentiful and tasty. Snacks are served following morning and afternoon dives, along with local fruits. A unique feature of the boat is the skiff used as the platform for all diving. It is housed on a hydraulic lift that enables divers to enter and leave it from the dive deck, and gear is maintained by the crew on the skiff during the entire week. Effortless diving sure to spoil the most hardened diver. The Aggressor visits a variety of sites and modifies the schedule to

accommodate requests for specific sites and types of dives. The local knowledge and experiences of the divemasters ensures that unique fish and coral are located and identified.

**Palau Aggressor II, January 2007, Mike Traylor (borderhart2@hotmail.com), EL Paso, TX.** Experience: 251-500 dives. Vis: 50 to 90 Feet. Water: 80 to 82 F, calm, currents. The best diving on the best live-aboard I've been on. Always exciting diving and friendly (Capital F) boat crew. The only drawback is the long flight there from the States.

**Palau Aggressor, January 2007, Brian Verb nac (verb nac@sympatico.ca), Huntsville, On.** Experience: 251-500 dives. Vis: 100 to 150 Feet. Water: 78 to 82 F, calm. Dive operation, boat, crew, and dive masters second to none. Safety exemplary; briefings are on time, relevant and accurate, divers are equipped with GPS units, two dive masters are on all dives but let you dive your dive. This boat has a large dive skiff that operates at the back of the main boat and is raised hydraulically from the water level up to the back of boat. All dive gear is kept and stored on the skiff and all refills are via long hoses from the compressor. After you're set up, the only item(s) you have to remove from the skiff are your camera and wet suit. Your spot on the skiff is yours for the week. Amazing comfort and convenience. This part of the world has everything ... walls, sharks, corals, sharks, small fish, large fish, sharks, drift dives, turtles, barracuda, did I mention sharks? WWII landing area with submerged vehicles and shells. The list of things to see never ends. Hooking in on the Blue Corner and Peleliu Corner are not to be missed. We were on a night dive to Matts Wall, and there is a resident star fish that has to be four feet across! Food: hot, plenti-